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THE

GREAT PROBABILITY

OF A

NORTH WEST PASSAGE.

A GENERAL MAP of the DISCOVERIES of ADMIRAL DE FONTE, Exhibiting the great Probability of a NORTH-WEST PASSAGE.

By Thomas Jefferys, Geographer to the KING.

SCALE of Marine Leagues 20 to a Degree.

EXPLANATION

De Fontes Discoveries Coloured Red.
Russians Discoveries ..... Green.
Juan de Fucas Straits ..... Blue.
Parts copied from ye Japan Map Yellow.

THE TARTARIAN SEA

YE-OUE OR THE NATION OF DWARFS

Indicated by the JAPANESE

NORTH EAST part of the TARTARIAN SEA Agreable to the Japanese Map

Indicated by the KAMTSCHADALES

LANDS Discovered by the RUSSIANS in 1741

NORTH PART OF THE SOUTH SEA

ASIA

SIBERIA

TSCHUTSKI

OCHOTSKOY SEA

KAMTSCHATKA

KURILSKI ISLANDS

BERINGS STRAITS

Aretic Circle

Here the Jesuits Travelled to

Discovered 1730

Archipelago of St. Lazarus

North East Part of the SOUTH SEA according to ye Chinese Geogr.

STRAITS Passed by Juan de Fuca

LAKE DE FONTE

NORTH AMERICA

NEW ALBION

NEW MEXICO

QUIVIRA

ANIAN

Ruyter of the West according to the Russian Maps

River of the West according to ye French

Mountains of Bright Stones mentioned in the Map of the Indian Oshipach.

BAFFIN BAY

DAVIS STRAITS

GROENLAND

HUDSONS BAY

NEW SOUTH WALES

LABRADOR

NORTH SEA

Hudsons Straits

Baffins Straits

James Island

Cumberland Island

Land of Fortune

Weston Penland

Fort Nelson

Fort Wales

York Fort

Fete Island

St. Anne L.

High Lands

Assiniboels

Monsonis

Sioux

Pintons

Padoucas Parks

Moqui

Zuni or Cibola

Tejuayo

Taos

Picuries

Apaches

Quachipaues

Mississipi R.

Missouri R.

Rio Colorado

Rio del Norte

Rio Grande

Rio Puerco

Rio Gila

Rio Tizon

Rio Buenaventura

Rio Salado

Rio Tulare

Rio Sacramento

Rio Buena Esperanza

Rio de Martin Aguilar

Rio de Sebastian Vizcaino

Rio de Monterey

Rio de Los Reyes

Rio de Los Martyres

Rio de Los Mercedes

Rio de Los Angeles

Rio de Los Navidad

Rio de Los Conchos

Rio de Los Nassonis

Rio de Los Tejas

Rio de Los Palmas

Rio de Los Cannas

Rio de Los Sabinas

Rio de Los Nueces

Rio de Los Guadalupe

Rio de Los Brazos de Dios

Rio de Los Trinidad

Rio de Los Colorado

Rio de Los Mississipi

Rio de Los Missouri

Rio de Los Illinois

Rio de Los Ouabache

Rio de Los Ohio

Rio de Los Tennessee

Rio de Los Cherokee

Rio de Los Kentucky

Rio de Los Shawanese

Rio de Los Miami

Rio de Los Wabash

THE

GREAT PROBABILITY

OF A

NORTH WEST PASSAGE:

DEDUCED FROM

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

Letter of Admiral DE FONTE,

Who ſailed from the *Callao* of *Lima* on the Diſcovery of a Communication

BETWEEN THE

SOUTH SEA and the ATLANTIC OCEAN;

And to intercept ſome Navigators from *Boſton* in *New England*, whom he met with,
Then in Search of a NORTH WEST PASSAGE.

PROVING THE

AUTHENTICITY of the Admiral's LETTER.

With Three Explanatory MAPS.

1ſt. A Copy of an authentic *Spaniſh* Map of *America*, publiſhed in 1608.
2d. The Diſcoveries made in *Hudſon*'s Bay, by Capt. *Smith*, in 1746 and 1747.
3d. A General Map of the Diſcoveries of Admiral *de Fonte*.

By THOMAS JEFFERYS, Geographer to the King.

WITH

AN APPENDIX.

Containing the Account of a Diſcovery of Part of the Coaſt and Inland
Country of LABRADOR, made in 1753.

The Whole intended for

The Advancement of TRADE and COMMERCE.

LONDON:
Printed for THOMAS JEFFERYS, at Charing Croſs.
MDCCLXVIII.

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

WILLS EARL OF HILLSBOROUGH,

&c. &c. &c.

ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES OF STATE,

FIRST LORD COMMISSIONER OF TRADE AND PLANTATIONS,

ONE OF HIS MAJESTY'S MOST HONOURABLE PRIVY COUNCIL, AND F.R.S.

THE Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage having deſerved the particular Attention of that great Miniſter of State Sir *Francis Walſingham*, with the Approbation of the greateſt Princeſs of that Age, I preſumed to aſk the Permiſſion to inſcribe the following Sheets, on the ſame Subject, to your Lordſhip, wrote with no View of ſetting any further Expeditions on Foot, or with reſpect to any particular Syſtem, but as a candid and impartial Enquiry, to ſhew the great Probability there is of a North-weſt Paſſage. The Importance of the Subject, treated with the greateſt Regard to Truth, are the only Pretenſions I have to merit your Patronage.

Your Lordſhip will appear, to the lateſt Poſterity, in the amiable Light of being zealous for the Glory of his Majeſty, the Honour of the Nation, for promoting the commercial Intereſts, the Happineſs of his Majeſty's

Subjects in general, and of those in *America* in particular. I therefore have the most grateful Sense of your Benevolence and Humanity in condescending to grant me this Favour, as it will be known for Part of that Time that I had the Honour to be

YOUR LORDSHIP'S

MOST HUMBLE AND

OBEDIENT SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

THE

PREFACE.

THE Opinion of there being a North-weſt Paſſage between the *Atlantic* and *Southern Ocean* hath continued for more than two Centuries; and though the Attempts made to diſcover this Paſſage have not been attended with the deſired Succeſs, yet in Conſequence of ſuch Attempts great Advantages have been received, not by the Merchant only but by the Men of Science. It muſt be a Satisfaction to the Adventurer, though diſappointed in his principal Deſign, that his Labours have contributed to the Improvement of Science, and the Advancement of Commerce.

There was a Generoſity with reſpect to the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, or a Reſpect to the great Abilities of thoſe who promoted the various Undertakings for making ſuch Diſcovery, to the Crown which patronized them, and the Eſtates of the Kingdom who promiſed a moſt munificent Reward to ſuch who ſhould compleat ſuch Diſcovery, that thoſe who were of a contrary Opinion treated the Subject with a becoming Decency. But the Cenſures that have been of late made by our Countrymen, and more particularly by Foreigners, our Anceſtors have been treated as ſo many Fools, or infatuated Perſons, buſied to compleat an impracticable and a meerly chimerical Project, and are accuſed by a foreign Geographer to have proceeded ſo far as to forge a fictitious Account under the Title of a Letter of Admiral *de Fonte*. That the Iniquity of the *Engliſh* Writers is not ſuch (neither was ever known to be ſuch) nor, was it in their Inclination, could they ſo eaſily deceive the World; and the

Falſhood of this Aſſertion could be no otherway made apparent than by conſidering ſuch Letter with a juſt Criticiſm, and examining the Circumſtances relating thereto. Though the preſent Age may not pay much Regard to theſe Cenſures, yet if they are paſſed unnoticed, might hereafter be conſidered as Truths unanſwerable at the Time thoſe Cenſures were made. Therefore to do Juſtice to the Character of our Anceſtors, to the preſent Age in which ſuch great Encouragement hath been given to theſe Undertakings, and that Poſterity might not be deceived, were Motives (had they been duly conſidered without a Regard to the Importance of the Subject) which might incite an abler Pen to have undertaken to vindicate the Authenticity of *de Fonte*'s Letter. As for a long Time nothing of this Kind appeared, nor could I hear that any Thing was undertaken of this Sort, by any Perſon to whom I could freely communicate my Sentiments, and the Informations which I had collected on this Subject, as the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage hath been the Object of my Attention for ſome Years, conſidered myſelf under the diſagreeable Neceſſity of becoming an Author in an Age of ſuch refined Sentiments, expreſſed in the greateſt Purity of Language: But if I have ſucceeded in the greater Matters, I hope to be excuſed in the leſſer.

I have inſerted the Letter of *de Fonte*, as firſt publiſhed in the *Monthly Miſcellany*, or *Memoirs of the Curious*, in *April* and *June* 1708, very ſcarce or in very few Hands; not only as I thought it conſiſtent with my Work, but that the Curious would be glad to have a Copy of ſuch Letter exactly in the ſame Manner in which it was firſt publiſhed, to keep in their Collections.

As to the Obſervations reſpecting the Circumſtances of the Letter of *de Fonte*, the Manner by which it was attained, its being a Copy of ſuch Letter which the Editors procured to be tranſlated from the *Spaniſh*, and as to ſuch Matters as are to be collected from the Title of ſuch Letter, and from the Letter in Support

port of its Authenticity, I ſubmit thoſe Obſervations to ſuperior Judgments: If confuted, and it appears I have miſapprehended the Matter, am not tenacious of my Opinion, but ſhall receive the Conviction with Pleaſure, being entirely conſiſtent with my Deſign, which is, That the Truth may be diſcovered, whether this Account is authentick or not.

In my Remarks of the Letter I have endeavoured to diſtinguiſh what was genuine, from what hath been ſince added by other Hands; have made an exact Calculation of the Courſes; have conſidered the Circumſtances of ſuch Letter, giving the Reaſons of the Conduct that was uſed in the various Parts of the Voyage, and ſhewing the Regularity and Conſiſtency there is through the Whole, and without Anachroniſms or Contradictions as hath been objected, part of which I was the better enabled to do from ſome Experience which I have had in Affairs of this Sort. I muſt obſerve, the Calculations were made without any Regard had to the Situation of *Hudſon*'s or *Baffin*'s Bay; but begun at the *Callao* of *Lima*, and purſued as the Account directs from the Weſtward: And it was an agreeable Surprize to find what an Agreement there was as to the Parts which, by ſuch Courſes, it appeared that the Admiral and his Captain were in, conſiſtent with the Purpoſe they were ſent on, and the Proximity of where they were to *Hudſon*'s and *Baffin*'s Bay.

To ſtate particularly all the Objections which have been made to this Account, I thought would have greatly increaſed the Bulk of the Work. There is no material Objection which I have any where met with, but is here conſidered. Alſo to have added all the Authorities which I have collected and made Uſe of, would have made it more prolix; ſo have contented myſelf with only giving ſuch Quotations as appeared abſolutely neceſſary to inſert, and then to mention the Authors particularly. I think I have not perverted the Meaning, or forced the Senſe, of any Author made Uſe of, to ſerve my Purpoſe.

To

To ſhew the Probability of a Paſſage, have traced the Opinions relating to it from the Time ſuch Opinions were firſt received; and alſo determined where it was always ſuppoſed to be or in what Part ſuch Paſſage was: Have conſidered the various Evidence that there is relating to ſuch Paſſage; and propoſed what appears to be the propereſt Method at preſent for proſecuting the Diſcovery.

There are three Maps, all of which appeared neceſſary for the better underſtanding this Account. The one contains Part of *Aſia* and the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries on the Coaſt of *America*; the Expedition of *de Fonte*, and clears up that ſeeming Inconſiſtency of the *Tartarian* and *Southern Ocean* being contiguous in that Part of *America*, from the Authority of the *Japaneſe* Map of *Kempfer*, which muſt be of ſome Repute, as it is ſo agreeable to the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries: If true in that Part, there is no Reaſon to ſuppoſe but it is in like Manner true as to the other Part which is introduced into this Map. This Map exhibits the Streight that *de Fuca* went up, the Communication which there may be ſuppoſed agreeable to the Lights which the Accounts afford us between the Sea at the Back of *Hudſon*'s Bay with that Bay, or with the *North Sea* by *Hudſon*'s Streights, or through *Cumberland* Iſles. There is alſo added a ſecond Map, to ſhew what Expectations may be had of a Paſſage from *Hudſon*'s Bay, according to the Diſcoveries made in the Year 1747. The third Map is an exact Copy from that publiſhed in the *Monarquia Indiana de Torquemada*, in which the Sea Coaſt of *America* is exhibited in a different Manner from what it uſually was in the Maps of that Time, compleated by the Coſmographers of *Philip* the Third. The Work itſelf is in few Hands, and the Map, as far as appears, hath been only publiſhed in that Book, is now again publiſhed, as it illuſtrates this Work, and may be otherwiſe agreeable to the Curious; having a Deſire not to omit any Thing which would render the Work compleat, or that would be acceptable to the Publick.

I have uſed uncommon Pains to be informed as to what could be any way ſerviceable to render this Work more compleat; and muſt make this publick Acknowledgement, as to the Gentlemen of the *Britiſh Muſeum*, who, with great Politeneſs and Affability, gave me all the Aſſiſtances in their Power to find if the Copy from which the Tranſlation was made was in their Poſſeſſion, which after an accurate Search for ſome Weeks it did not appear to be, and alſo their Aſſiſtance as to any other Matters which I ſuppoſed would be of Service. I cannot paſs by Mr. *Jefferys*'s Care and Exactneſs in executing the Maps, whoſe Care and Fidelity to the Publick not to impoſe any Thing that is ſpurious, but what he hath an apparent and real Authority for, is perhaps not ſufficiently known.

The Voyage, an Extract from which is added by Way of Appendix, was made from *Philadelphia*, in a Schooner of about ſixty Tons, and fifteen Perſons aboard, fitted out on a Subſcription of the Merchants of *Maryland*, *Pennſylvania*, *New York*, and *Boſton*, on a generous Plan, agreeable to Propoſals made them, with no View of any Monopoly which they oppoſed, not to interfere with the *Hudſon*'s Bay Trade, or to carry on a clandeſtine Trade with the Natives of *Greenland*, but to diſcover a North-weſt Paſſage, and explore the *Labrador* Coaſt, at that Time ſuppoſed to be locked up under a pretended Right, and not frequented by the Subjects of *England*, but a ſucceſsful Trade carried on by the *French*; to open a Trade there, to improve the Fiſhery and the Whaling on theſe Coaſts, cultivate a Friendſhip with the Natives, and make them ſerviceable in a political Way: Which Deſign of theirs of a publick Nature, open and generous, was in a great Meaſure defeated by private Perſons interfering, whoſe Views were more contracted.

They did not ſucceed the firſt Year as to their Attempt in diſcovering a North-weſt Paſſage, as it was a great Year for Ice; that

that it would be late in the Year before the Weſtern Part of *Hadſon*'s Bay could be attained to, and then impoſſible to explore the *Labrador* that Year, therefore the firſt Part of the Deſign was dropped, and the *Labrador* was explored. The next Year a ſecond Attempt was made as to a Paſſage; but three of the People who went beyond the Place appointed by their Orders, and inadvertently to look for a Mine, Samples of which had been carried home the Year before, and this at the Inſtigation of a private Perſon before they ſet out from home, without the Privity of the Commander, were killed by the *Eſkemaux*, and the Boat taken from them. After which Accident, with ſome diſagreeable Circumſtances conſequent thereon amongſt the Schooner's Company, and after an Experiment made of their Diſinclination to proceed on any further Diſcovery, it was thought moſt prudent to return. This ſhort Account is given by the Perſon who commanded in this Affair, to prevent any Miſrepreſentation hereafter of what was done on theſe Voyages.

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MEMOIRS for the CURIOUS.

A Letter from Admiral Bartholomew de Fonte, *then Admiral of* New Spain *and* Peru, *and now Prince of* Chili; *giving an Account of the moſt material Tranſactions in a Journal of his from the Calo of* Lima *in* Peru, *on his Diſcoveries, to find out if there was any North Weſt Paſſage from the* Atlantick *Ocean into the South and Tartarian Sea.*

THE Viceroys of *New Spain* and *Peru*, having advice from the Court of *Spain*, that the ſeveral Attempts of the *Engliſh*, both in the Reigns of Queen *Elizabeth*, King *James*, and of Capt. *Hudſon* and Capt. *James*, in the 2d, 3d and 4th Years of King *Charles*, was in the 14th Year of the ſaid King *Charles*, A. D. 1639, undertaken from ſome Induſtrious Navigators from *Boſton* in *New England*, upon which I Admiral *de Fonte* received Orders from *Spain* and the Viceroys to Equip four Ships of Force, and being ready we put to Sea the 3d of *April* 1640. from the Calo of *Lima*, I Admiral *Bartholomew de Fonte* in the Ship *St Spiritus*, the Vice-Admiral *Don Diego Penneloſſa*, in the Ship *St Lucia*, *Pedro de Bonardæ*, in the Ship *Roſaria*, *Philip de Ronquillo* in the *King Philip*. The 7th of *April* at 5 in the Afternoon, we had the length of *St Helen*, two hundred Leagues on the *North* ſide of the Bay of *Guajaquil*, in 2 Degrees of *South* Lat. and anchored in the Port *St Helena*, within the Cape, where each Ship's Company took in a quantity of *Betumen*, called vulgarly *Tar*, of a dark colour with a caſt of Green, an excellent Remedy againſt the Scurvy and Dropſie, and is uſed as Tar for Shipping, but we took it in for Medicine; it Boils out of the Earth, and is there plenty. The 10*th* we paſs'd the Equinoctial by Cape *del Paſſao*, the 11*th* Cape *St Franciſco*, in

April 1708. one Degree and ſeven Minutes of Latitude North from the Equator, and anchor'd in the Mouth of the || River *St Jago*, where with a Sea-Net we catch'd abundance of good Fiſh; and ſeveral of each Ship's Company went aſhoar, and kill'd ſome Goats and Swine, which are there wild and in plenty; and others bought of ſome Natives, 20 dozen of *Turkey* Cocks and Hens, Ducks, and much excellent Fruit, at a Village two *Spaniſh* Leagues, ſix Mile and a half, up the River *St Jago*, on the Larbord ſide or the Left hand. The River is Navigable for ſmall Veſſels from the Sea, about 14 *Spaniſh* Leagues *South Eaſt*, about half way to the fair City of *Quita*, in 22 Minutes of *South* Latitude, a City that is very Rich. The 16*th* of *April* we ſailed from the River *St Jago* to the Port and Town *Raleo*, 320 Leagues W. N. W. a little Weſterly, in about 11 Degrees 14 Min. of N. Latitude, leaving Mount *St Miguel* on the Larboard ſide, and Point *Cazamina* on the Starboard ſide. The Port of *Raleo* is a ſafe Port, is covered from the Sea by the Iſlands *Ampallo* and *Mangreza*, both well inhabited with Native *Indians*, and 3 other ſmall Iſlands. † *Raleo* is but 4 Miles over Land from the head of the Lake *Nigaragua*, that falls into the North Sea in 12 Degrees of North Latitude, near the Corn or Pearl Iſlands. Here at the Town of *Raleo*, where is abundance of excellent cloſe grain'd Timber, a reddiſh Cedar, and all Materials for building Shipping; we bought 4 long well ſail'd Shallops, built expreſs for ſailing and riding at Anchor and rowing, about 12 Tuns each, of 32 foot Keel. The 26*th*, we ſailed from *Raleo* for the Port of *Saragua*, or rather of *Salagua*, within the Iſlands and Shoals of *Chamily*, and the Port is often call'd by the *Spaniards* after that Name; in 17 Degrees 31 Minutes of North Latitude, 480 Leagues North Weſt and by Weſt, a little Weſterly from *Raleo*. From the Town of *Saragua*, a little Eaſt of *Chamily* at *Saragua*, and from *Compoſtilo* in the Neighbourhood of this Port, we took in a Maſter and ſix Mariners accuſtomed to Trade with the Natives on the Eaſt ſide of *California* for Pearl; the Natives catch'd on a Bank in 19 Degrees of Latitude North from the *Baxos* St *Juan*, in 24 Degrees of

Eighty Leagues N. N. W. and 25 Leagues E. and by S.

The great Ships that are built in New Spain *are built in* Raleo.

of North Latitude 20 Leagues N. N. E. from Cape St *Lucas*, the South Eaſt point of *California*. The Maſter Admiral *de Fonte* had hir'd, with his Veſſel and Mariners, who had informed the Admiral, that 200 Leagues North from Cape St *Lucas*, a Flood from the North, met the South Flood, and that he was ſure it muſt be an Iſland, and *Don Diego Penneloſſa* (Siſters Son of * *Don Lewis de Haro)* a young Nobleman of great Knowledge and Addreſs in Coſmography and Navigation, and undertook to diſcover whether *California* was an Iſland or not; for before it was not known whether it was an Iſland or a *Peninſula*; with his Ship and the 4 Shallops they brought at *Raleo*, and the Maſter and Mariners they hir'd at *Salagua*, but Admiral *de Fonte* with the other 3 Ships ſailed from them within the Iſlands *Chamily* the 10*th* of *May* 1640. and having the length of Cape *Abel*, on the W. S. W. ſide of *California* in 26 Degrees of N. Latitude, 160 Leagues N. W. and W. from the Iſles *Chamily*; the Wind ſprung up at S. S. E. a ſteady Gale, that from the 26*th* of *May* to the 14th of *June*, he had ſail'd to the River *los Reyes* in 53 Degrees of N. Latitude, not having occaſion to lower a Topſail, in ſailing 866 Leagues N. N. W. 410 Leagues from Port *Abel* to Cape Blanco, 456 Leagues to *Riolos Reyes*, all the time moſt pleaſant Weather, and ſailed about 260 Leagues in crooked Channels, amongſt Iſlands named the || *Archipelagus de St Lazarus*; where his Ships Boats ſail'd a mile a head, ſounding to ſee what Water, Rocks and Sands there was. The 22d of *June*, Admiral *Fonte* diſpatched one of his Captains to *Pedro de Barnarda*, to ſail up a fair River, a gentle Stream and deep Water, went firſt N. and N. E. N. and N. W. into a large Lake full of Iſlands, and one very large *Peninſula* full of Inhabitants, a Friendly honeſt People in this Lake; he named Lake *Valaſco*, where Captain *Barnarda* left his Ship; nor all up the River was leſs than 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 Fathom Water, both the Rivers and Lakes abounding with Salmon Trouts, and very large white Pearch, ſome of two foot long; and with 3 large *Indian* Boats, by them called *Periagos*, made of two large Trees 50 and 60 foot long. Capt. *Barnarda* firſt ſailed from his

April 1708.

Don Lewis de Haro *was great Miniſter of* Spain.

|| *So named by de* Fonte, *he being the firſt that made that Diſcovery.*

April 1708. Ships in the Lake *Valaſco*, one hundred and forty Leagues Weſt, and then 436 E. N. E. to 77 Degrees of Latitude. Admiral *de Fonte*, after he had diſpatch'd Captain *Barnarda* on the Diſcovery of the North and Eaſt part of the *Tartarian* Sea, the Admiral ſail'd up a very Navigable River, which he named *Riolos Reyes*, that run neareſt North Eaſt, but on ſeveral Points of the Compaſs 60 Leagues at low Water, in a fair Navigable Channel, not leſs than 4 or 5 Fathom Water. It flow'd in both Rivers near the ſame Water, in the River *los Reyes*, 24 foot Full and Change of the Moon; a S. S. E. Moon made high Water. It flow'd in the River *de Haro* 22 foot and a half Full and Change. They had two † Jeſuits with them that had been on their Miſſion to the 66 Degrees of North Latitude, and had made curious Obſervations. The Admiral *de Fonte* received a Letter from Captain *Barnarda*, dated the 27th of *June*, 1640. that he had left his Ship in the Lake *Valaſco*, betwixt the Iſland *Barnarda* and the Peninſula *Conihaſſet*, a very ſafe Port; it went down a River from the Lake, 3 falls, 80 Leagues, and fell into the *Tartarian* Sea in 61 Degrees, with the Pater Jeſuits and 36 Natives in three of their Boats, and 20 of his *Spaniſh* Seamen; that the Land trended away North Eaſt; that they ſhould want no Proviſions, the Country abounding with Veniſon of 3 ſorts, and the Sea and Rivers with excellent Fiſh (Bread, Salt, Oyl and Brandy they carry'd with them) that he ſhould do what was poſſible. The Admiral, when he received the Letter from Captain *Barnarda*, was arrived at an *Indian* Town called *Conoſſet*, on the South-ſide the Lake *Belle*, where the two Pater Jeſuits on their Miſſion had been two Years; a peaſant Place. The Admiral with his two Ships, enter'd the Lake the 22d of *June*, an Hour before high Water, and there was no Fall or Catract, and 4 or 5 Fathom Water, and 6 and 7 generally in the Lake *Belle*, there is a little fall of Water till half Flood, and an Hour and quarter before high Water the Flood begins to ſet gently into the Lake *Belle*; the River is freſh at 20 Leagues diſtance from the Mouth, or Entrance of the River *los Reyes*. The River and Lake abounds with Salmon,

† *One of thoſe that went with Capt.* Barnada *on his Diſcovery.*

Salmon-

Salmon-Trouts, Pikes, Perch and Mullets, and two other ſorts of Fiſh peculiar to that River, admirable good, and Lake *Belle*; alſo abounds with all thoſe ſorts of Fiſh large and delicate: And Admiral *de Fonte* ſays, the Mullets catch'd in *Rios Reyes* and Lake *Belle*, are much delicater than are to be found, he believes, in any part of the World. April 1708.

The reſt ſhall be incerted in our next.

June 1708.

MEMOIRS for the CURIOUS.

The Remainder of Admiral Bartholomew de Fonte's *Letter; giving an Account of the moſt material Tranſactions in a Journal of his from the Calo of* Lima *in* Peru, *on his Diſcoveries to find out if there was any North Weſt Paſſage from the* Atlantick *Ocean into the South and Tartarian Sea; which for want of Room we could not poſſibly avoid poſtponing.*

See the Memoirs for April 1708. and you'll find the beginning of this Curious Diſcovery.

WE concluded with giving an Account of a Letter from Capt. *Barnarda*, dated the 27th of *June*, 1640. on his Diſcovery in the Lake *Valaſco*. The firſt of *July* 1640, Admiral *de Fonte* ſailed from the reſt of his Ships in the Lake *Belle*, in a good Port cover'd by a fine Iſland, before the Town *Conoſſet* from thence to a River I named *Parmentiers*, in honour of my Induſtrious Judicious Comrade, Mr *Parmentiers*, who had moſt exactly mark'd every thing in and about that River; we paſs'd 8 Falls, in all 32 foot, perpendicular from its Sourſe out of *Belle*; it falls into the large Lake I named Lake *de Fonte*, at which place we arrived the 6th of *July*. This Lake is 160 Leagues long and 60 broad, the length is E. N. E. and W. S. W. to 20 or 30, in ſome places 60 Fathom deep; the Lake abounds with excellent Cod and Ling, very large and well fed, there are ſeveral very large Iſlands and 10 ſmall ones; they are covered with ſhrubby Woods, the Moſs grows 6 or 7 foot long, with which the Mooſe, a very large ſort of Deer, are fat with in the Winter, and other leſſer Deer, as Fallow, *&c.* There are abundance of wild Cherries, Straw-berries, Hurtle-berries, and wild Currants, and alſo of wild Fowl, Heath Cocks and Hens, likewiſe Patridges and Turkeys, and Sea Fowl in great plenty on the South ſide: The Lake is a very large

fruitful

fruitful Iſland, had a great many Inhabitants, and very excellent Timber, as Oaks, Aſhes, Elm and Fur-Trees, very large and tall. June 1708.

The 14th of *July* we ſailed out of the E. N. E. end of the Lake *de Fonte*, and paſs'd a Lake I named *Eſtricho de Ronquillo*, 34 Leagues long, 2 or 3 Leagues broad, 20, 26, and 28 Fathom of Water; we paſs'd this ſtrait in 10 hours, having a ſtout Gale of Wind and whole Ebb. As we ſailed more Eaſterly, the Country grew very ſenſibly worſe, as it is in the North and South parts of *America*, from 36 to the extream Parts North or South, the Weſt differs not only in Fertility but in Temperature of Air, at leaſt 10 Degrees, and it is warmer on the Weſt ſide than on the Eaſt, as the beſt *Spaniſh* Diſcoverers found it, whoſe buſineſs it was in the time of the Emperor *Charles* the V. to *Philip* the III. as is noted by *Aloares* and a *Coſta* and *Mariana*, &c.

The 17th we came to an *Indian* Town, and the *Indians* told our Interpreter Mr *Parmentiers*, that a little way from us lay a great Ship where there had never been one before; we ſailed to them, and found only one Man advanced in years, and a Youth; the Man was the greateſt Man in the Mechanical Parts of the Mathematicks I had ever met with; my ſecond Mate was an *Engliſh* Man, an excellent Seaman, as was my Gunner, who had been taken Priſoners at *Campechy*, as well as the Maſter's Son; they told me the Ship was of *New England*, from a Town called *Boſton*. The Owner and the whole Ships Company came on board the 30th, and the Navigator of the Ship, Capt. *Shapley*, told me, his Owner was a fine Gentleman, and Major General of the largeſt Colony in *New England*, called the *Maltechuſets*; ſo I received him like a Gentleman, and told him, my Commiſſion was to make Prize of any People ſeeking a North Weſt or Weſt Paſſage into the South Sea, but I would look upon them as Merchants trading with the Natives for Bevers, Otters, and other Furs and Skins, and ſo for a ſmall Preſent of Proviſions I had no need on, I gave him my Diamond Ring,

June 1708. Ring, which coſt me 1200 Pieces of Eight, (which the modeſt Gentleman received with difficulty) and having given the brave Navigator, Capt. *Shapley* for his fine Charts and Journals, 1000 Pieces of Eight, and the Owner of the Ship, *Scimor Gibbons* a quarter Caſk of good *Peruan* Wine, and the 10 Seamen each 20 Pieces of Eight, the 6th of *Auguſt*, with as much Wind as we could fly before, and a Currant, we arrived at the firſt Fall of the River *Parmentiers*, the 11th of *Auguſt*, 86 Leagues, and was on the South ſide of the Lake *Belle* on board our Ships the 16th of *Auguſt*, before the fine Town *Conoſſet*, where we found all things well; and the honeſt Natives of *Conoſſet* had in our abſence treated our People with great humanity, and Capt. *de Ronquillo* anſwer'd their Civility and Juſtice.

The 20th of *Auguſt* an *Indian* brought me a Letter to *Conoſſet* on the *Lake Belle*, from Capt. *Barnarda*, dated the 11th of *Auguſt*, where he ſent me word he was returned from his Cold Expedition, and did aſſure me there was no Communication out of the *Spaniſh* or *Atlantick* Sea, by *Davis* Srait; for the Natives had conducted one of his Seamen to the head of *Davis* Srait, which terminated in a freſh Lake of about 30 Mile in circumference, in the 80th Degree of North Latitude; and that there was prodigious Mountains North of it, beſides the North Weſt from that Lake, the Ice was ſo fix'd, that from the Shore to 100 Fathom Water, for ought he knew from the Creation; for Mankind knew little of the wonderful Works of God, eſpecially near the North and South Poles; he writ further, that he had ſailed from *Baſſet* Iſland North Eaſt, and Eaſt North Eaſt, and North Eaſt and by Eaſt, to the 79th Degree of Latitude, and then the Land trended North, and the Ice reſted on the Land. I received afterwards a ſecond Letter from Capt. *Barnada*, dated from *Minhanſet*, informing me, that he made the Port of *Arena*, 20 Leagues up the River *los Reyes* on the 29th of *Auguſt*, where he waited my Commands. I having ſtore of good Salt Proviſions, of Veniſon and Fiſh, that Capt. *de Ranquillo* had ſalted

(by my order) in my abſence, and 100 Hogſheads of *Indian* Wheat or Mais, ſailed the 2d of *September* 1640. accompanied with many of the honeſt Natives of *Conoſſet*, and the 5th of *September* in the Morning about 8, was at an Anchor betwixt *Arena* and *Mynhanſet*, in the River *los Reyes*, ſailing down that River to the North Eaſt part of the South Sea; after that returned home, having found that there was no Paſſage into the South Sea by that they call the North Weſt Paſſage. The Chart will make this much more demonſtrable.

Tho the Style of the foregoing Piece is not altogether ſo Polite, (being writ like a Man, whoſe livelihood depended on another way) but with abundance of Experience and a Traveller, yet there are ſo many Curious, and hitherto unknown Diſcoveries, that it was thought worthy a place in theſe Memoirs; *and 'tis humbly preſum'd it will not be unacceptable to thoſe who have either been in thoſe Parts, or will give themſelves the trouble of reviewing the Chart.*

OBSERVATIONS

ON

The Title affixed, and on other Circumſtances relating to the Letter of Admiral de Fonte, *ſhewing the Authenticity of that Letter, and of the Account therein contained.*

OBSERVATIONS have been made by ſeveral Geographers of different Nations on the Letter of Admiral *de Fonte*, to ſhew that ſuch Letter is not deſerving of Credit, is to be thought of as a mere Fiction or Romance, and is a Forgery compoſed by ſome Perſon to ſerve a particular Purpoſe. But it will appear, as we proceed in a more particular Conſideration of the Title and Circumſtances relative to the Letter of Admiral *de Fonte* than hath been hitherto uſed, and from the following Remarks on the Subject of ſuch Letter *, That thoſe Obſervations made by the Geographers have many of them no juſt Foundation, the reſt afford not a ſufficient Evidence to invalidate the Authenticity of that Letter, and of the Account it contains.

It is only from a Copy of the Letter of *de Fonte* that the Tranſlation hath been made, which is now publiſhed, as is plain from a Title being affixed, *A Letter from Admiral* Bartholomew de Fonte, *then Admiral of* New Spain *and* Peru, *and now Prince of* Chili. As *Prince* is never uſed in this Senſe with us, it is apparently a literal Tranſlation of the *Spaniſh* Word *Principe*, conſequently this Title was wrote in the *Spaniſh* Language, and we cannot otherwiſe conclude but in the ſame Language with the Letter. From this and other Defects of the like Sort, which will be noticed as we proceed in our Obſervations, the

* Memoires et Obſervations Geographiques et Critiques ſur la Situation de Pays Septentrionaux, &c. a Lauſanne, 1765.—Pa. 115, &c.

Tranſlator muſt be acquitted from all Suſpicion of being any way concerned in this pretended Forgery.

By the Copieſt affixing this Title, it is evident he was well aſſured that there had been ſuch an Expedition.

The Anecdotes, as to the Vice-admiral *Penneloſſa*, in the Body of the Letter, what is therein mentioned as to the Jeſuits, evidence that a minute and particular Inquiry was made by the Copieſt; that he had thoroughly informed himſelf of every Particular of this Affair; that he was aſſured that the Account by him copied contained the moſt material Tranſactions in a Journal of *de Fonte*'s, and that *de Fonte* was then, probably from his advanced Age, in the Service of the Government in another Station.

This Expedition not being ſolely to intercept the Navigators from *Boſton*, but alſo to diſcover whether there was a Paſſage in thoſe Parts thro' which the *Engliſh* expected to make a Paſſage, *viz.* by the back Part of *Virginia*, by *Hudſon*'s or by *Baffin*'s Bay; it was an Undertaking which required that the Perſon who had the conducting of it ſhould not only be a Man of good Underſtanding, but a judicious and experienced Seaman. The Time required to attain ſuch Qualifications implies, that *de Fonte* muſt have been of a mature Age when he went on this Command; and *de Fonte* being alive at the Time that the Copy was taken, it muſt have been taken within twenty Years, or in a leſs Time after ſuch Expedition, as the Copieſt ſpeaks of *Penneloſſa* as a young Nobleman The Copieſt therefore could not be impoſed on, as his Inquiries were made in ſuch a Time, either with reſpect to the Perſons concerned, or with reſpect to the Letter not being a genuine Account of the Voyage.

A Perſon might be ſo circumſtanced as to attain the Favour of copying ſuch Letter, induced by ſome private Motive, without an Intention of making it publick, as Publications were not at that Time ſo frequent as of late Days; neither is it leſs probable that a Copy ſo taken may, in Proceſs of Time, come into other Hands and then be publiſhed.

Mr. *Gage* obſerves, in his Dedication to Lord *Fairfax*, 'The Reaſon 'of his publiſhing a New Survey of the *Weſt Indies* to be, becauſe that 'nothing had been written of theſe Parts for theſe hundred Years laſt

'paſt,

'paſt, which is almoſt ever ſince from the firſt Conqueſt thereof by the 'Spaniards, who are contented to loſe the Honour of that Wealth and 'Felicity, which they have ſince purchaſed by their great Endeavours, 'ſo that they may enjoy the Safety of retaining what they have for-'merly gotten in Peace and Security.' And though *de Fonte* declares that there was no North-weſt Paſſage, yet that there ſhould be no Publication of the Account of the Voyage is conſiſtent with this eſtabliſhed Maxim.

The North-weſt Paſſage he mentions is not to be underſtood, in an unlimited Senſe, for a Paſſage between the *Atlantick* and Weſtern Ocean to the Northward, but the Meaning is confined to that Paſſage expected by *Hudſon*'s Bay: For *de Fonte* ſays, that he was to make a Prize of *any ſeeking a North-weſt or Weſt Paſſage* *; by the latter he meant where *Penneloſſa* was ſent to ſearch; and *Bernarda* ſays, there was no Communication out of the *Spaniſh* or *Atlantick* Sea, by *Davis* Streight; and there was an Extent of Coaſt which *de Fonte* only ran along, and had, but at Times, a diſtant View of; and as to the Jeſuits, by whatever Means they got into thoſe Parts, it is evident they had not ſeen all the intermediate Country. Therefore tho' the Court of *Spain* was ſatisfied that the Paſſage was not where *de Fonte* had ſearched; yet there might be a Paſſage where he had not ſearched, and publiſhing this Account of the Voyage would be an Aſſiſtance to the Adventurers, as it would confine them in their Searches to thoſe other Parts which were curſorily paſſed by *de Fonte*, and where perhaps they might ſucceed: Or this Account particularly deſcribing the Northern and Weſtern Part of *America*, not hitherto known, would be of great Service to Rovers, who had already found their Way into thoſe Seas, by directing them to the Coaſt and Harbours, and giving them an Account of a Country where they could retire to with tolerable Security from any Interruption from the *Spaniards*, a good Climate, hoſpitable People, and a Plenty of Proviſions to be had; Circumſtances which might enable them to continue their cruizing in thoſe Seas much longer than without ſuch Lights as they would receive from this Account they would be enabled to do.

* Vide Letter.

It is well known that the *Spaniards* claimed all to the Northward as their Dominion, which they intended in due Time to acquire the Poſſeſſion of, and the Publication might give an Inſight to the *Engliſh* Settlers in *America* to be beforehand with them in attaining a Settlement in thoſe Parts.

Their Attempt to intercept the *Engliſh* Subjects, when made Publick to the World, would have given Umbrage to the Court and People of *England*, which the *Spaniards* would not unneceſſarily, and eſpecially at a Time when they had their Hands full of a War with the *French*, who had alſo incited the *Catalonians* to rebel, and had joined them with their Troops. The *Spaniards* were, at the ſame Time, endeavouring to recover the Dominions of *Portugal*. And *de Fonte* had reſpect to the critical Situation their Affairs were in, even before he ſet out on his Voyage, hence his political Behaviour when he met with the Navigators from *Boſton*, committed no Act of Hoſtility, yet made Uſe of the moſt effective Means to prevent their proceeding further.

As no Publication was permitted of this Expedition, this therefore could come but to the Knowledge only of a very few Perſons in *Old Spain*. Such a ſingular Tranſaction being ſoon, from their Attention to other Matters, and their Miniſtry ſoon after entirely changed, no more talked of, unleſs it ſhould have been revived by ſomething of the like Nature again happening on the Part of the *Engliſh*. As no Attempt was made by the *Engliſh* for almoſt a Century, this Tranſaction, in that Time, fell into Oblivion. At the Time ſuch Attempt was renewed, then the *Spaniards* were better acquainted with the Purpoſe of our ſettling in *America*, they had altered their Deſigns of extending their own Poſſeſſions, there was alſo another Power who might pretend that ſuch Paſſage, if made, was Part in their Dominion, ſo obſtruct our free proceeding and interrupt our ſettling; the *Spaniards* therefore having no immediate Occaſion for any Reſearches back to the Records to acquaint themſelves as to the Practicability or Impracticability of our Attempts, or to take Directions for their own Proceedings, the Remembrance of this Expedition continued dormant.

In

In *New Spain*, the fitting four Ships to go on Diſcovery, as ſuch Undertakings had been very frequent, it would not engage any extraordinary Attention of the Publick there; it often happened that what was done on ſuch Voyages was kept a Secret. The more curious and inquiſitive Perſons would attain but an imperfect Account, by Inquiry from the People on board the Ships, as the Ships were divided, and they would receive no ſatisfactory Information of what was moſt material, and the principal Object of their Inquiry by thoſe who went in the Boats, as Seamen delighting in Stories often tell what they neither heard or ſaw. The Conſequences of the Voyage not known, becauſe not underſtood, a weak Tradition of this Expedition would remain to Poſterity; and the only Knowledge or Certainty to be acquired, as to this Expedition, would be from Journals accidentally preſerved, of ſome Perſons who had gone the Voyage.

Monſ. *de Liſle* gives us an Extract of a Letter from Monſ. *Antonio de Ulloa*, wrote from *Aranguer* the 19th of *June* in the Year 1753*, to Monſ. *Bouguer e le Mounier*, to anſwer the Queries they had made on the Subject of the Letter of Admiral *de Fuente*. That curious and able *Spaniſh* Officer ſent them in Anſwer, That in the Year 1742 he commanded a Ship of War the *Roſe*, in the South Sea; he had on board him a Lieutenant of the Veſſel named *Don Manuel Morel*, an antient Seaman, who ſhewed him a Manuſcript; *Monſ. Ulloa* forgot the Author's Name, but believes it to be *Barthelemi de Fuentes*. The Author in that Manuſcript reported, that in Conſequence of an Order which he had received from the then Viceroy of *Peru*, that he had been to the Northward of *California*, to diſcover whether there was a Paſſage by which there was a Communication between the North and South Sea; but having reached a certain Northern Latitude, which *Monſ. Ulloa* did not recollect, and having found nothing that indicated ſuch Paſſage, he returned to the Port of *Callao*, &c. *Monſ. Ulloa* adds, he had a Copy of ſuch Relation, but he loſt it when he was taken by the *Engliſh* on his return from *America*.

* Novelles Cartes des Decovertes de L'Amiral de Fonte, et autres Navigateurs, &c. Par de Liſle. Paris 1753.—P. 30.

It is evident, from this Account being ſeen in 1742, it is not the ſame from which the Tranſlation is made which we now have, that being publiſhed in 1708. And as *Monſ. de Liſle* aſſerts, that the Letter is conformable with what *Monſ. Ulloa* ſaid at *Paris* three Years before, with this Difference only, that he ſaid poſitively at that Time, that the Relation which he had ſeen at *Peru*, and of which he had taken a Copy, was of Admiral *de Fonte*, this Manuſcript, which contained the Account of the Voyage, may rather be ſuppoſed to be a Relation, or Journal kept by ſome Perſon, who was aboard Admiral *de Fonte*'s Ship, a Friend or Anceſtor of *Morel*, than a Copy the ſame with this Letter, as it only mentioned the Purport of the Voyage, ſeems not to have the particular Circumſtances as to intercepting the *Boſton* Men. This Account is an Evidence ſo far in Favour of this Letter, as it proves that this Letter is not the only Account that there is of this Voyage, and that another Account was ſeen and copied at *Peru* many Years after this Letter was publiſhed in *England*. But if it be ſuppoſed that it is one and the ſame Account, and that from the *Engliſh*, it would not have been accepted of and kept by *Morel*, and ſhewed as a Curioſity, unleſs he was ſatisfied that it was a true genuine Account of ſuch Voyage, and as to which he would naturally inquire, being on the Spot, where he might probably be informed, and unleſs he was at a Certainty that what that Account contained was true, would he have produced the Manuſcript, or permitted his Captain to take a Copy of it as genuine; yet we may with greater Probability ſuppoſe, that this Manuſcript which *Morel* had was no Tranſlation from the *Engliſh*, but in itſelf an Original. Monſ. *Ulloa* ſpeaking of *Morel* as an antient Seaman, cannot mean that he was in the Expedition of *de Fonte*, only implies his being acquainted with ſome one who was, with whom, from his Courſe of Years, he might have ſailed, and attained this Journal.

What is ſaid in the Letter of Monſ. *Ulloa*, that he forgot the Name of the Author of the Manuſcript, but believes it was *Bartelemi de Fuentes*, that the Author of that Manuſcript gave an Account of. It muſt be conſidered, that when Monſ. *Ulloa* wrote he was in *Old Spain*, many Years after he had ſeen the Account, and three Years after he was at *Paris*; and though he genteelly anſwers the Inquiries ſent him, agree-

able

able to his Converſation at *Paris*, yet does not expreſs himſelf ſo poſitively as when at *Paris*, as in the Letter he only believes it to be *Bartelemi de Fonte*. *Monſ. Ulloa* would ſooner not have anſwered the Letter than deny what he had formerly ſaid; and if Monſ. *de Liſle* had advanced that for which he had no proper Authority, both as a Gentleman and an Officer he would not have ſubmitted to ſuch a Falſhood: But from Monſ. *Ulloa* being tender in the Account, being of a Matter which might not make any great Impreſſion on him at the Time he received it, ten Years ſince, out of his Hands, and three Years after he was at *Paris*, this Account is more worthy of Credit, and he might be more cautious, now he was to give it under his Hand, to ſoften the Reproach of his Countrymen for his not acting like a true *Spaniard*, in being ſo communicative in this Matter. The Account which Monſ. *de Liſle* hath given, was with a Permiſſion of Monſ. *Ulloa* to make Uſe of his Name, as the Letter Monſ. *Ulloa* ſent teſtifies. Where Monſ. *de Liſle* hath not the Liberty to mention the Name of his Author, he only ſays, that there was a Perſon equally curious, and as well inſtructed in the Affair as Monſ. *de Ulloa*, who aſſured him poſitively that there was ſuch a Relation.

Though Monſ. *de Liſle* had a particular Syſtem to ſupport, yet, at the ſame Time, he had a great publick Character to preſerve. Monſ. *Bougier*, *Mounier*, and *Ulloa*, were living at the Time he gave this Account to the Publick; they would be aſked as to what they knew of the Affair; and a more particular Inquiry would be made of Monſ. *de Liſle*, as to the Information he received from the nameleſs Perſon; and as there were ſeveral of his Countrymen who did not adopt his Syſtem, a Trip in this Affair, as to the Evidence he brings in Support of the Authority of this Account of *de Fonte*, would have given them an Advantage which they would not have neglected, and have done Juſtice to the Publick, by letting them know there was little of Truth in this Account; but as no Reflections have appeared, we have no Reaſon to queſtion the Veracity of Monſ. *de Liſle* in this Relation, on any Surmiſes of Strangers, on no better Authority than meer Opinion, without a ſingle Reaſon produced in Support of what they inſinuate.

This Letter, when publiſhed in 1708, was conſidered only as an Account that was curious; was looked on as of no Importance, and did

not engage the Attention of the Publick until the Diſcovery of the North-weſt Paſſage became the Topick of common Converſation, and would have lain, without having any further Notice taken of it, had not the Attempts to diſcover a North-weſt Paſſage been revived. It is from their being produced in a proper Seaſon, that Accounts of this Sort become permanent, aſſiſting in ſome favourite Deſign, being thus uſeful they are preſerved from Obſcurity and Oblivion. We have an Account, the Author Captain *Don Franciſco de Seixas*, a Captain in the *Spaniſh* Navy, and is frequently quoted by the *Spaniſh* Writers, though he is little known amongſt us.—He ſays, P. 71. '*Thomas Peche*, an *Engliſhman*, having been 'at Sea twenty-eight Years, and made eight Voyages to the *Eaſt-Indies* 'and *China* during ſixteen Years of that Time, ſpent the other twelve in 'Trading and Piracies in the *Weſt-Indies*, from whence he returned to '*England* in 1669; and, after continuing there four Years, in 1673, 'with other Companions, fitted out at the Port of *Briſtol* one Ship of 'five hundred Tons, with forty-four Guns, and two light Frigates of 'one hundred and fifty Tons, and in each eighteen Guns, giving out 'that he was bound on a trading Voyage to the *Canaries*; whence they 'bore away with the three Veſſels, and went through the Streight *Le* '*Maire*, with two hundred and ſeventy Men, which he carried directly 'to trade at the *Moluccas* and *Philippinas*.

'And after continuing in thoſe Parts twenty-ſix Months and ſome 'Days, it appearing to the ſaid *Thomas Peche* that from the *Philippinas* 'he could return to *England* in a ſhorter Time by the Streight of *Anian* 'than by the Eaſt or Streight *Magellan*, he determined to paſs this 'Rout with his large Ship, and one ſmall one, the other having loſt 'Company by bad Weather, or worſe Deſign in thoſe who com-'manded it.

'And having, as he ſays, ſailed one hundred and twenty Leagues 'within the Streights of *Anian*, relates, that as the Month of *October* 'was far advanced, in which the northerly Winds reign much, and drove 'the Waters from the North to the South, that the Currents of the ſaid 'Streight of *Anian* were ſuch, and ſo ſtrong, that had they continued 'longer they muſt, without Doubt, have been loſt; wherefore, finding 'it neceſſary to return back, ſailing along the Coaſt of *California* (after 'having ſailed out of the Channel of *Anian*) and thoſe of *New Spain*

'and

'and *Peru*, he went through the Streight of *Magellan* into the North 'Sea in ſixteen Hundred and ſeventy-ſeven, with the Veſſels and much 'Riches, great Part whereof was of a *Spaniſh* Veſſel which they took on 'the Coaſt of *Lugan*.'

Wherefore paſſing over all the reſt of what the Author ſays in his Voyage, only mentioning what regarded the Currents, he relates, that when he entered into the Streight of *Anian* he found, from Cape *Mendocino* in *California*, for above twenty Leagues within the Channel, the Currents ſet to the N. E. all which and much more the Curious will find in the Voyage of the ſaid *Thomas Peche*, which in ſixteen Hundred and ſeventy-nine was printed in *French* and *Engliſh*, in many Parts of *Holland*, *France*, and *England*, in leſs than twenty Sheets Quarto: And (he adds) further I can affirm, that I have ſeen the Author many Times in the Year eighty-two, three and four in *Holland*, who had along with him a *Spaniſh* Meſtize born in the *Philippinas*, together with a *Chineſe*.

It can ſcarce be imagined the Whole is without Foundation, though no ſuch Voyage is at preſent to be come at, *Seyxas* publiſhing his Work ſoon after the Publication by *Peche*, to which he particularly refers, ſeems to obviate all Doubt of his Sincerity; and there are too many Circumſtances, which are collateral Evidence, mentioned, to imagine he could be entirely deceived. He publiſhed his Work at *Madrid* in ſixteen Hundred and eighty-eight, dedicated to the King, as Preſident in his Royal Council of the *Indies*, and to the Marquis *de les Velez*; the Work intituled, *Theatro Naval Hydographico de Los Fluxos*, &c. This Account was received as a true and faithful Relation of a Voyage performed, as it was publiſhed in various Languages; yet the Want of this Account is a Particular, ſome Reaſon for Exception with us, that we cannot receive it as a Certainty. And we are more ſuſpicious as to the Truth of any Accounts that we have received relating to the North-weſt Part of *America*, than to any other Part of the Globe. Our Opinion being in a great Meaſure influenced by the Syſtem we embrace, as, Whether there is a North-weſt Paſſage, or not? And for this Reaſon only, no Part of the Globe hath more engaged the Attention of the Geographers, and with reſpect to which they had more different Opinions.

Thoſe whoſe Opinion it was that *Aſia* and *America* were contiguous, had, for many Years, their Opinion rejected, but now confirmed to be true by the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries; and we may conclude they had a good Authority for what they advanced, which was not tranſmitted down to us, as they had ſuch an Aſſurance of what they had advanced, as they ſuppoſed there could never be the leaſt Doubt of it. Thoſe who advanced that there was Paſſage between the *Atlantick* and Southern Ocean, by a Streight in the Northern and Weſtern Parts of *America*, and very likely on a good Authority, have their Opinion oppoſed, all Accounts of Voyagers treated as fabulous, and for the ſame Reaſon that the Opinion of *Aſia* and *America* being contiguous was rejected, as they could produce nothing further for it than Tradition, and as to which the Tradition now appears to have had its Foundation in Truth. Soon after *America* was diſcovered, and the *Spaniards* had ſettled in *New Spain*, the Report of there being a Streight prevailed, the Truth of this Report hath not been diſproved, and we have no juſt Reaſon to reject this Tradition for poſitive Aſſertions which are produced without any Evidence, but that our Attempts have not ſucceeded. Which is an Inference deduced from a falſe Principle, for our not having had the expected Succeſs hitherto, doth not imply that we may not ſucceed hereafter, as we proceed in our future Attempts; and all that hath been ſaid, as to there being no North-weſt Paſſage, is not adequate to the Tradition of there being ſuch a Paſſage. This Tradition is alſo ſupported by a few Accounts, which we reject too abſolutely. Theſe Accounts are given by various Perſons, at different Times, without any Concern, Connection, or even Acquaintance the one with the other; which Accounts ſhew that the Opinion of their being ſuch a Streight prevailed. Theſe Accounts were given by Foreigners; we could not receive them from any other, as we did not frequent thoſe Seas, and at preſent have no ready Acceſs to them. And as it was but occaſionally that any Perſons went into thoſe Parts, it is but by a few Perſons only we could receive any Information reſpecting thereto. Nor could we attain ſuch Information as we have in another Manner, than from what our own Countrymen accidentally picked up, as a regular Publication of ſuch Account was not permitted, and as ſome thought themſelves intereſted to keep the moſt material Part a Secret, in hopes to turn it to Advantage, by being employed, or receiving a Gratuity for their Diſcovery. And Allowances

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ſhould be made, without declaring a Perſon immediately too credulous, who reports what he hears only in Converſation from another; he may, in ſuch Converſation, omit many Circumſtances which it would have been neceſſary for him to be informed of, in order to give that Satisfaction to others to whom he reports this Information, which he himſelf received of the Truth of what was related to him at the Time of the Converſation. And we have no Reaſon to cenſure thoſe as too credulous who have publiſhed theſe Accounts, until we get a more perfect Information as to the North-weſt Parts of *America*, which at preſent remain unknown. A Diſpute ariſes as to the Situation of ſuch a Streight; and Accounts given by *Indians* are produced to prove that the Streight cannot be in ſuch a Part, where it is ſuppoſed to be ſo far to the Southward as to have its Entrance from the South Sea, in Latitude 51; whereas, on a little Examination, it would appear that thoſe *Indians*, whoſe Accounts are produced, are almoſt equal Strangers as to thoſe Parts with the *Europeans*. They do not ſeek inhoſpitable Countries, where there is little Produce, no Plenty of Fuel, great and frequent Waters, Mountains and Swamps, having no Inducement from Trade or on Account of War, as they would not go into thoſe Parts to ſeek their Enemy, whom, with leſs Hazard and a greater Certainty of finding them, they could attack when returned from their Summer hunting and fiſhing to their Retirements, where they live more comfortably than in thoſe Parts into which, by Neceſſity, they are obliged to go on Account of the Chace, as they could not otherwiſe ſubſiſt themſelves and Families. And on due Examination it will appear all the Accounts we have from the *Indians* are erroneouſly made uſe of, to evince that there is no Streight in the Part that is contended for. Inſtead of too ſevere a Cenſure on the Credulity of others, we ſhould be cautious that our Diffidence does not lead us into an unreaſonable Incredulity, and prevent our uſing ſuch Teſtimony as is preſented to us ſo candidly as we ought to do, and prevent our getting a true Inſight into an Affair of ſuch Importance; and the utmoſt that can be ſaid of it is, that it is a Point yet undetermined, whether there is a North-weſt Paſſage or not.

As to the original Letter of *de Fonte*, we intereſt ourſelves in the important Matter it contains, and therefore become more ſuſpicious and diffident,

diffident, as to its Authenticity, than upon a due Uſe of our Reaſon it will appear that we ought to be. As we have no Reaſon, as is apparent from what hath been ſaid, that the original Letter ſhould ever come to our Hands; and if it appear, as we proceed, that it is rather to be attributed to inevitable Accidents, than there not having been ſuch a Letter, that we cannot attain any particular Information reſpecting thereto. If it is conſidered that we have a Publication of ſuch Letter, the Deficiencies in which are not, as it will appear, any other than the Errors of the Tranſlator and Printer. That there are a great many concurring Circumſtances in Support of and conformable with what the Letter contains. And the Account is compoſed of ſuch Particulars as exceed the Induſtry and Ingenuity of thoſe who employ their Fancy in compoſing ingenious Fictions. Theſe various Branches of Evidence cannot be rejected, if we make a fair Judgment in this Matter: There muſt be a Prepoſſeſſion from common Fame, a Prejudice from a prior Opinion, or an Intereſt and Deſign to ſupport a particular Syſtem, that prevents our accepting of it, as a Probability next to a Certainty, of this being a true Account; and there is only wanting, to our receiving it abſolutely as ſuch, that the Copy be produced from which the Tranſlation was made, or a full and compleat Evidence as to what is become of ſuch Copy.

Why we cannot obtain a particular Information as to the original Letter of *de Fonte*, appears from the Account, which ſhews that the Court of *Spain* had a ſecret Intelligence of this Undertaking. And as that Court would not openly declare that they had ſuch an Information, or how they intended to defeat the Deſign, the Orders ſent, and conſequently the Account of the Execution of thoſe Orders, and whatever related thereto, would be *ſecret* Papers, and as ſuch kept in a Manner that few Perſons would have a free Acceſs; and by thoſe few who had, as the publick Buſineſs did not require it, might never be taken in Hand, unleſs they accidentally catched the Eye of ſome who was particularly curious. Thus neglected, in a Century of Time it might not be known, if the Subject was revived, where they were depoſited, and being ſo few in Number would take up but a ſmall Space, which might make it difficult to find them.

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The Politeneſs and Civility which prevail in this Age, will not admit of ſuch a Complaiſance to curious Inquirers as to gratify them in that, which, in Policy, from good Reaſons of State, might as well be omitted. There are Inſtances of late Diſcoveries being made, as to the Whole of which, from particular Views, as it is ſaid, the Curious have not been gratified. And if this Expedition of *de Fonte* was remembered, and the Papers relating thereto could be brought to light, it might immediately encourage us to proceed on making a further Attempt for the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, therefore we can have no Reaſon to expect the Court of *Spain* would aſſiſt us with what might determine us to a Proceeding at which they muſt take Umbrage, as we are now become the only Power who ſhare *North America* with them, from the Advantages that ſuch a Diſcovery would give us in caſe of a future Rupture between the two Crowns; though our preſent Intention is to increaſe our Commerce, by opening a Trade to *Japan*, and carrying on a Trade in a more advantageous Manner to *China*.

We cannot be aſſured, if full Permiſſion was given to find theſe Papers, and more particular Pains and Application uſed, than is cuſtomary with People in publick Offices, when the Occaſion of the Search being to little other Purpoſe than ſatisfying Curioſity, whether ſuch Search might not be rendered unſucceſsful, by ſuch Papers being burnt amongſt many other State Papers, in the Fire in the *Eſcurial*, the common Depoſitory for State Papers at that Time.

If we conſider the Changes that have happened, as to the Succeſſion to the Crown of *Spain*, the Changes in the Miniſtry, Foreigners introduced into their Miniſtry, there muſt have been many Particulars, not only of this but of other Kinds, which they are not at preſent acquainted with, the Miniſtry having no Occaſion to give themſelves any Concern about them. *Don Olivarez*, who was the Miniſter at this Time, was known to do his Buſineſs by Juntos of particular People, as the Reſolutions of Government thereby remained an inviolable Secret, which was not always the Caſe when the Buſineſs was managed by publick Councils. They alſo gave their Advice in a particular Manner, by written Billets, which were handed to the King, that every Thing was conducted in a very myſterious Manner during the Time that he was in

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the Miniſtry, contrary to the former Practice, and which was alſo diſuſed afterwards.

If Inquiry hath been made by the moſt intelligent amongſt the *Spaniards* as to this Expedition, and the Commands of the Monarch to make Diſcovery of theſe Papers, and the Orders relating thereto, have been duly executed, but they cannot be found. The Reaſons are apparent, the Voyage being ſcarce ſpoke of at the Time, went ſoon out of Remembrance, and whatever may be in private Hands relating thereto, is not immediately recollected by the Poſſeſſors, and the Originals, if not ſecreted or miſlaid, are burnt in the *Eſcurial* in the Year 1671, the uſual Reſidence of the Court, and therefore where this Letter may be ſuppoſed to be received and lodged. For the Evidence relative to this Account, which the Diſtance of Time or other Accidents could not deface, yet remains. If *de Fonte* was Governor or Preſident of *Chili*, from the Nature of his Office it muſt appear, amongſt ſome Records or Inſtruments of Writing, and we accordingly are informed, that there was a Perſon in that Office named *Fuente*, which is ſynominous. That we have not more minute Particulars, is by reaſon that the Account is from thoſe Parts where we have not a free and ready Acceſs to make our Enquiries, and from a People, excepting a few Individuals, who are not very communicative to Foreigners. But where we have not laboured under the like Diſadvantage, we have found that there was one *Gibbons*, alſo *Shapley*, Perſons exactly circumſtanced as the Letter mentions, upon the Authority of Records, the Tradition of antient Men, in thoſe Parts where they had lived, and alſo other Accounts, ſupporting the Authenticity of this Letter, as will be ſhewn when we proceed to conſider of the Subject of the Letter. There is therefore juſt Reaſon to conclude, was it poſſible to have the like Pains taken in *New Spain* or *Peru*, we might meet with Particulars reſpecting this Matter, which would put the Truth of this Account out of all Doubt; and any Failure in the Inquiries there, may be owing to their not having been made with an equal Induſtry, and which it is not in our Power to procure in thoſe Parts ſo diſtant and inacceſſable.

The Circumſtances of the Inhabitants of *Boſton*, and the neighbouring Provinces, during this Period of Time ſince the Expedition of *de Fonte*, have been very different, they have not been ſubjected to the like fatal Accidents

with the People of *Lima*, and that Neighbourhood, who ſeveral Times have had their City laid in Ruins, and almoſt entirely depopulated by Earthquakes, particularly in *April* 1687, and in the Year 1746. The Buildings becoming an entire Heap of Ruins, and many People periſhing, muſt leſſen the Force of Tradition, and affect, in ſome ſort, the publick Records; and if the Marine Office was at the *Calloa* of *Lima*, the *Calloa* having been twice overwhelmed by the Sea, then there is no Reaſon to expect from *New Spain* an authenticated Account of the Equipment of this Fleet under the Command of Admiral *de Fonte*.

Thoſe who argue againſt the Authenticity of this Account, muſt admit that he was a Perſon of Capacity and Abilities who compoſed it, and ſhould aſſign us ſome Reaſon, if a Fiction, why a ſenſible Perſon ſhould undertake it, as there could be no Inducement either in Point of Reputation or Profit: For, if a Fiction, it is neither entertaining or inſtructive. Neither can any political Motive be urged for this Undertaking, as the Subject muſt then have been treated in a Manner entirely different; ſo managed as to ſhew that a North-weſt Paſſage was abſolutely impracticable, and to let nothing be introduced that would afford the leaſt Incitement to Adventurers to come into thoſe Parts. But it is apparent, that in this Account the Facts are related in a plain and ſimple Manner, without any Violation of Truth, as they are related without any Conſideration of their Conſequences. The Repreſentations made, as to the Tides, as to the different Sorts of Fiſh that came into the Waters from Weſtward and Eaſtward, would have been an Encouragement to a further Trial as to a North-weſt Paſſage, had ſuch Account been publiſhed; and if the Phænomena as to the Tides, and the Difference as to the Fiſh, was not from its communicating with the *South Sea*, and the Attempt had proved ſucceſsleſs as to the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, yet to countervail, in ſome Meaſure, that Diſappointment, there was a Proſpect of a lucrative Trade, in all Appearance to be carried on in thoſe Weſtern Parts where *de Fonte* is repreſented to have been in, with greater Convenience than that which had been carried on by the *Boſton* People from the Eaſt before and at this Time in *Hudſon*'s Bay; and the *Engliſh* might be invited, if ſucceſsful in their Trading, to make a Settlement, an Event which the *Spaniards* were ap-

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prehenſive of, and earneſtly deſirous to prevent. Theſe are Defects which the Capacity and Abilities of the Author would not permit him to run into, if he was writing a fictitious Account, as he muſt eaſily ſee that ſuch Repreſentations to deſtroy the Notion of a North-weſt Paſſage, and prevent the *Engliſh* ſettling there, were abſolutely contrary to his Purpoſe. To give a greater Plauſibility to a fictitious Tale, the Scene may be laid in diſtant Parts, by this Means introducing, more ſecurely, Names and Characters of Perſons as real who never were; and though this Account mentions Perſons who lived at a great Diſtance, and in an obſcure Part, yet there were ſuch Perſons as the Account mentions. Alſo the Period of Time when this Voyage was performed, ſo correſponds with their Tranſactions, as the Author could fix on no other Period ſo agreeing with the Circumſtance of Major *Gibbons* being ſo long, and at that very Time, abſent from home; and his Abſence can be attributed to no other Cauſe than his being out on a Voyage. Here is more Plainneſs and Conſiſtency than is uſual in Fiction, with ſuch a Variety of Particulars, and ſo circumſtanced, as would perplex the moſt pregnant Fancy to invent, which can be no Way ſo naturally accounted for as by admitting that the Letter contains a genuine Account of a Voyage made by Admiral *de Fonte*, not a Forgery to ſupport political Views; or that it is the Production of a ſporting Fancy to contraſt ſome other Performance, or in order to expoſe the Credulous to publick Ridicule.

The Editors of this Letter, whoſe Buſineſs it was to know whether this Account was authentick, gave an entire Credit to it as being authentick, not only as they aſſured the Publick in a general Way, and with reſpect to all their Pieces that they ſhould publiſh, that they would only exhibit ſuch as were of unqueſtionable Authority, but by their annexing an Advertiſement to the Letter, have given us a particular Aſſurance of the Account being authentick; and we have juſt Reaſon to conclude they *could* have given us that further Satisfaction we now deſire; but what they have done was thought by them ſufficient, as they had no Idea of the *Importance* of the Subject. They comprehended not further of this Account, *Than that it contained many curious and unknown Diſcoveries; and they humbly preſumed*, being Strangers to any further Merit that it had, *that it would not, on that Account, be unacceptable to*

the Publick. Had this Letter been publiſhed at a Time a North-weſt Paſſage was under Conſideration of the Publick, there might be ſome Suſpicion that the Editors had ſome further Deſign. But as to a North-weſt Paſſage after the Voyage of Captain *James*, and after the Diſcovery was entruſted to a Company, and no Succeſs conſequent, it was generally received, many Years before this Letter was publiſhed, that to find ſuch a Paſſage was a Thing impracticable. The Opinion of there being ſuch a Paſſage was treated as a Chimera: And the Affair of a North-weſt Paſſage lay in a State of Silence and Oblivion near thirty Years after the Publication was made. We may obſerve, that there is no Art in the Compoſition of this Advertiſement; it was inſerted by Men of Honour and Veracity, who had no other Intention in publiſhing theſe Memoirs than the Advancement of Science; who, from their general Knowledge, could not be impoſed on, and cannot, from their known Characters, be ſuppoſed to have a Deſign to impoſe on others. And what further or other Evidence than that which they have given could be expected from the Editors, unleſs they had been acquainted with the Importance which the Letter now appears to be of? It was all that was at that Time neceſſary, as they did not expect that there would be any invidious Imputation of Forgery, for then they would have vindicated it from all Suſpicion in a more particular Manner than they have done. They thought it a ſufficient Proof of its Authenticity their receiving it into their Collection. As to that mean Reflection that this Account is a Forgery of ſome *Engliſhman*, it is thoroughly obviated if we conſider on what a Foundation ſuch a Suppoſition muſt be grounded, which is, That ſome *Engliſhman* compoſed this Account, tranſlated it into *Spaniſh*, though there were but few and very indifferent Linguiſts at that Time in *England*, to be again tranſlated by the Editors, the better to impoſe on them and the Publick. The Publick is a Name which comprehends many Perſons of Curioſity and Sagacity, for whom chiefly theſe Memoirs were publiſhed; and by theſe Perſons, as well as by all others, the Account was received at that Time as genuine, without the leaſt Suſpicion of there being any Fraud or Impoſture.

The principal Object or Deſign of the Publication was, that the Account contained a Diſcovery made of thoſe Parts, as to the Knowledge of which the Geographers were at that Time very deficient; and the Editors

being ſatisfied as to the Authenticity, all they thought neceſſary was to give a Tranſlation of the Letter. And, from their Avocations to their own private Affairs, did not conſider it in ſo minute a Manner as it required, as is plain from their Apology made as to the Stile of the Letter, not being *altogether ſo polite, being wrote like a Man whoſe Livelihood depended on another Way, and with an Abundance of Experience.* Whereas the Politeneſs of Stile would have been an abſolute Objection as to the Authenticity of the Account. That as it was a Letter wrote by Admiral *de Fonte* to lay before the Court of *Spain*, what had paſſed in the Courſe of the Voyage, though *de Fonte* might expreſs himſelf in proper and well choſen Terms, yet he was to uſe a Stile that was natural and ſimple. On the ſeveral Lights in which the Editors have been conſidered, as to the Part which they undertook, it muſt appear that they are unjuſtly reproached with Want of Integrity; they acted conſiſtently, having no Occaſion to ſay more with reſpect to this Account than they have done. Their Neglect was not from Want of Penetration or Deſign. Their genuine Characters were ſuch as they could not ſuppoſe it would be ever ſuſpected, that they could have any Inducement to impoſe a ſpurious Account on the Publick.

Thoſe who cenſure this Account of *de Fonte* as a Cheat and a Forgery impoſed by ſome one on the World, have produced no Evidence from Facts, or urged any Thing to ſhew the Improbability of this Account; as to the Argument they ſo ſtrongly inſiſt on that the Original was never produced, it is highly improbable that the Original ever ſhould be produced in theſe Parts; and there is a Uniformity in the Circumſtance that a Copy only came to the Hands of the Editors, which turns the Argument againſt the Objectors. The Suſpicion of there being any Deceit or Forgery, hath aroſe from there having been different Syſtems advanced by Geographers reſpecting theſe Parts: Thoſe in whoſe Syſtem this Account is not adopted have been the Occaſion of ſuch Suſpicions being raiſed, and have given ſome Countenance to ſuch their Suſpicions from the imperfect Manner in which this Account hath been exhibited; though that is not to be attributed to the Account in its genuine Dreſs, but as broken and diſfigured by the Tranſlator and Printer. The Gloſſes and Comments added by the Perſon who took the Copy, and thoſe added by the Tranſlator in Explanation of the Text, are inſerted in the ſame Character,

Character, and without any Diſtinction from the Text, and thoſe by the Tranſlator ignorantly introduced. Marginal Notes are inſerted as Part of the Narration; Courſes are omitted; others miſtaken from the Tranſlator's Inattention to the *Spaniſh* Compaſs; Dates miſplaced by the Printer: The Tranſlator alſo deviates from the Mode of Expreſſion, and renders, in an inaccurate, confuſed and obſcure Manner, a very material Part in this Account. Many of theſe Faults we may attribute to Precipitation, from the Tranſlator wanting due Time to ſtudy the Letter, occaſioned by a Perſecution of the Printer, who preſſed him to finiſh that the Printer might compleat his monthly Number, and, from the ſame Neceſſity, the immediate Publication, it may be that the Faults of the Preſs are ſo many. Such numerous Defects make it evident that this Account could never have been originally conſtructed in this Manner; and it is on theſe Defects only that they rely, or from which their principal Arguments are drawn to invalidate the Authenticity of this Account. They might have perceived that a Relation, ſo mutilated and impaired, muſt have had a more uniform or regular Shape at one Time or other: And the Editors, in their Index, when the Year's Numbers were compleated, ſtile it *an original and very entertaining Letter of Admiral de Fonte*, by which they mean for the Curious; and by ſtiling it an Original, they are not only to be underſtood that it was never before publiſhed, but alſo that it was wrote by *de Fonte*; which implies that they had a *Spaniſh* Account, and of which, as being conſiſtent with their Purpoſe, they gave only a Tranſlation: Alſo the Impreſſion of the firſt Part, being ſo uncorrect and full of Faults, the ſecond Part more correct, and the Mode of Expreſſion reſumed, ſhews that the firſt Compoſition is not their own, but that it is a Tranſlation which the Editors have given us. The Defects and Imperfections of which being pointed out, we ſhall comprehend what little Reaſon there is to diſpute the Authenticity of this Account, from the Disfigurements which have prevented our ſeeing it in its proper Shape, and for ſuſpecting thoſe Perſons to be Authors of the Fiction who meant well; but their Fault conſiſted in their Inattention to the Tranſlator, who did not therefore give a ſucceſsful Concluſion to their good Deſign, as by rendering the Account obſcure and unintelligible, he afforded Matter for Cavil and Diſpute as to this Account of the Voyage, whether credible or not, and which a juſt Tranſlation would have confirmed to be true.

As to the Name *Bartholomew de Fonte*, we may obſerve that when the Tranſlator can render the Names in the *Spaniſh* by *Engliſh* Names which are anſwerable thereto, he doth not inſert the *Spaniſh* Names, but the *Engliſh*. Thus, as to the Ships, he calls one the King *Philip*; but when they cannot be rendered by a reſembling Denomination in the *Engliſh*, and the Name hath its Original from the *Latin*, he paſſes by the new Name, or as it is wrote in the *Spaniſh*, and gives us the antient Name, or according to the Latin *St. Spiritus*, *St. Lucia*, *Roſaria*, for *de Eſpiritu Santo*, *Santa Lucia*, *del Roſaria*. Hath rendered *Bartholomew de Fonte*, *Philip de Ronquillo* both in *Engliſh* and *Latin*. From which Management of the Tranſlator, in giving the Name according to the *Latin* and not giving it as it hath been transformed or changed agreeable to the *Spaniſh* Orthography, there is juſt Reaſon to conclude the Name which is here rendered *Fonte*, was *Fuente* or *Fuentes* in the Original. But if it was wrote *Fonte*, it was in the provincial Dialect, different from the Manner of writing the good Writers introduced, which did not immediately prevail in all Parts alike, but was gradually received. For Inſtance, they wrote *Fuenterabia* in *Caſtile*, when the *Biſcayners* continued to write *Fonterabia*; and it is as often ſpelt the one Way as the other in our Books and Maps.

Fuente and *Fuentes* are not of one Termination. *Fonte* or *Fuente*, in the Titles of the *Marquis Aguila de Fuente*, ſo in *de Fuente de Almexi*, is of the ſingular Number, or the Title is taken from the Water of *Almexi*. But *Fuentes*, in the Titles of the *Marquis de Fuentes*, and in *Conde Fuentes de Valde Pero*, or of *Don Pedro Enriques Conde de Fuentes*, expreſſes a plural Number, which the Tranſlator, through his Indifference as to the Subject which he was employed to tranſlate, might not obſerve.

Don Pedro Enriques Conde de Fuentes was raiſed to the Honour of being a Grandee by *Philip* the Third, in the Year 1615, in reſpect to his great Services in the Wars; was deſcended from a Branch of that illuſtrious Family the *Enriques*. Nine of which Family were ſucceſſively Admirals of *Caſtile*; and the ninth, *Don Joan Alonſo Enriques*, was in that high Poſt at the Time of this Expedition. There were Intermarriages between the Families of *Enriques* and *Valaſco*; and *Don Pedro* was ſucceeded in his Eſtate and Title by *Don Luis de Haro*, of the principal Houſe

Houſe of *Valaſco*, and Son-in-Law to *Don Olivarez*. Theſe Circumſtances conſidered, we have a further Reaſon to ſuſpect that the Name *de Fonte* is not duly rendered by the Tranſlator, as there is a Conſiſtency in a Relation of the *Conde de Fuentes* being advanced to be Admiral of *New Spain* and *Peru*, which coincides with what is reported from *New Spain*, of the Name being *Fuentes* of the Perſon who was Preſident of *Chili*. It was alſo apparent that *de Fonte* was a Man of Family, from thoſe who took the reſpective Commands under him. *Penneloſſa*, of whom more particular mention is made in the Letter: *Philip de Ronquillo*, ſeemingly allied to *John de Ronquillo*, who did conſiderable Service in the Year 1617, and was Governor of the *Philippine* Iſlands. There was alſo *Ronquillo* a Judge, ſent to reduce the Inſurgents at the City of *Segovia*, in the Time of the Civil Wars in *Spain*. *Pedro de Bonardæ*, who is afterwards called Captain *Barnarda:* Of him we muſt have the leaſt to ſay; and we could not expect to be any Way ſucceſsful in our Inquiries from this Inaccuracy. He ſeems not to have had ſo diſtinguiſhed an Alliance as the others, and employed on this Expedition on the Account of his Abilities, being allotted to a Service not like that of *Penneloſſa*, or *Ronquillo*, diſagreeable in reſpect to the Climate, fatiguing and hazardous. That he was a Gentleman by his Deſcent, is evident from his being named *de Bonardæ*.

The *Spaniſh* Fleet was but in a mean Condition at the Concluſion of the Miniſtry of the Duke of *Lerma*; but when an Expedition was ſet out to recover *St. Salvador* in the Year 1626, was much improved; the *Portugueſe* had twenty-ſix Sail, but the *Spaniſh* Fleet were now numerous. It doth not appear that the Fleets from *Liſbon*, when *Portugal* was under the Crown of *Spain*, were ſent otherwhere than to the *Eaſt Indies*, *Brazil*, and the Perlieus; and thoſe from *Old Spain*, that ſailed from *Cadiz*, went to *New Spain*, and the Iſlands under that Dominion. In the Year 1596, when Sir *Francis Drake* took *Cadiz*, he burnt the Fleet that was lying there bound for *Mexico*; and Mr. *Gage*, in the Year 1625, ſailed with a Fleet of ſixteen Sail, all for *Mexico*, and to the *Weſt Indies* ſeventeen Sail, beſides eight Galleons for a Convoy, all under two *Spaniſh* Admirals.

The

The Inconſiſtency that *de Fonte*, a *Portugueze*, ſhould be in ſuch a Poſt as *Admiral of New Spain*, a great Objection to the Authenticity of this Account, is removed by the Obſervations that have been made as to the Name *de Fonte*, by which it appears that he was not a *Portugueze*, and their having Sea Commanders, *Spaniards* by Birth, with whom they could ſupply the principal Poſts in the Marine, without being under the Neceſſity of applying to *Portugal* for Perſons qualified to fill thoſe Stations.

As to *de Fonte* being afterwards Preſident of *Chili*, it is meant of the *Audience of Chili*, ſubordinate to the *Viceroy of Peru*.

REMARKS

ON

The LETTER of Admiral DE FONTE.

THE Viceroys of *New Spain* and *Peru*, having Advice from the Court of *Spain*, and not from *the Court* and the *Council of Spain*; which latter is the common Form of Expreſſion uſed in any Matter which had been under the Conſideration of the *Supreme Council of the Indies*, implies that ſuch Advice muſt have proceeded from the Secret Council, or from the King through his Miniſter, that the Deſign of the Equipment of the four Ships, and the Attempt of the Induſtrious Navigators from *Boſton* might remain a Secret.

The Appellation of Induſtrious Navigators was conformable to the Characters of *Gibbons* and *Shapley*. Sir *Thomas Button*, in the Extract which there is from his Journal, gives *Gibbons* a great Eulogium as to his being an able Navigator; and this was the Character of *Shapley* amongſt his Cotemporaries.

The Court of *Spain* knew that this Attempt to diſcover a Paſſage between the *Atlantick* and the *Weſtern Ocean*, was intended by the Northward and Weſtward; and though they allude to all the Attempts to make ſuch Diſcovery which had been at any Time made, by mentioning the ſeveral Reigns in which any ſuch Attempts were made, yet they hint more particularly, that they expect this Attempt will be by *Hudſon*'s Bay, as they mention expreſly in their Advice the two Voyages of *Hudſon* and *James*. For what is here ſaid, *That the ſeveral Attempts*, &c. is a Recital from the Advice ſent by the Court to the Viceroys, or from the Orders that *de Fonte* received.

This Expedition from *Boſton* particularly commanded the Attention of the Court of *Spain*, as Captain *James* had not abſolutely denied there was a North-weſt Paſſage; and *Fox*, though not mentioned here, had publiſhed an Account in 1635, by which he had poſitively declared that there was a North-weſt Paſſage; and Sir *Thomas Button*, who kept his Journal a Secret, was very confident of a Paſſage, and is ſaid to have ſatisfied King *James* the Firſt. The Death of his Patron *Prince Henry* prevented his being fitted out again. *Gibbons*, his Intimate, had made the Voyage with him: Afterwards had made a ſecond Attempt by himſelf, but loſt his Seaſon by being detained in the Ice. And now, though a married Man, had a Family, a Perſon in Truſt and Power where he reſided, engages in a third Attempt from *Boſton*.

The ſecond, third, and fourth Year of the Reign of King Charles refers ſolely to the Voyage of Captain *James*; to the Time he was engaging Friends to fit him out; and the Time when ſuch Voyage was concluded on. As the *Engliſh* uſed the *Julian*, and the *Spaniards* the *Gregorian* Account, theſe Tranſactions which refer to Captain *James*'s Expedition, could not be made to coaleſce as to the Time, from the Difference there was between theſe two Computations, in any other Manner than by putting the Year of the King of *England*'s Reign. As King *Charles* began his Reign the 27th of *March* 1625, two Days after the Commencement of the Year, according to the *Julian* Account, and the ſecond Year of his Reign would not begin until the 27th of *March* 1626, two Days alſo after that Year commenced, but according to the *Gregorian* Account, the Year 1626 began in *January*; from the 1ſt of *January* to the 27th of *March*, the Year 1626, according to the *Gregorian* Account, would correſpond with the firſt Year of the Reign of King *Charles*. As to this Expedition from *Boſton*, it is mentioned to be in the Year 1639, and in the fourteenth Year of the Reign of King *Charles*; but the Year 1639, according to the *Julian* Account, is the fifteenth Year of that King's Reign; but according to the *Gregorian* Account, the Year 1639 correſponds from *January* to *March* with the fourteenth Year of that King's Reign.

The Times mentioned in this Letter do not refer to the Times when the Voyages were actually ſet out on, but when undertaken or reſolved

on, as it is expreſſed in the Letter, *undertaken* by ſome induſtrious Navigators from *Boſton*. Captain *James* did not ſail until the Year one Thouſand ſix Hundred and Thirty-one, not getting the King's Protection early enough in one Thouſand ſix Hundred and Thirty, to proceed that Year, or in the fourth Year of the King's Reign. That is, he did not get it early enough in Spring to be ready by the latter End of *March*, as he muſt have been to proceed that Year; ſo the fourth Year of the King well agrees with this Proceeding. And *de Fonte* did not ſail until one Thouſand ſix Hundred and Forty, which was a Year after the Court of *Spain* had received Intelligence of ſuch Undertaking from *Boſton*. Which they would uſe the firſt Opportunity to tranſmit to *New Spain*; *de Fonte* therefore had at leaſt ſix Months for the Equipment of the four Ships to go on this Expedition; a Time ſufficient, in ſo fine a Climate, and every Thing that was neceſſary to be done was enforced by Orders of the Crown. Had this Equipment been executed in a much ſmaller Space of Time, there would have been nothing ſo admirable in it: Therefore the Objection, as to the Impoſſibility that Ships ſhould be fitted between the Time the Court received this Information, and their ſailing, drops to the Ground.

It is not any way ſtrange that this Deſign, as it appears to have been, was made known to the Court of *Spain* the Year before that it was ſet out on; as that Court entertained a continual Jealouſy of theſe Undertakings, as is apparent from their ſending Veſſels to intercept *Davis*; their having Informations as to Captain *James*'s Voyage alſo, and the Conſequences of it, as may be collected from this Letter.

Major General *Gibbons*, if he had not the King's Protection, yet he had Friends at the Court of *England* who made Application for him to be Captain of the Fort at *Boſton*, and one of the Council, the latter End of the Year one Thouſand ſix Hundred and Thirty-eight, or in the Beginning of the Year one Thouſand ſix Hundred and Thirty-nine. That the moſt ſecret Affairs of the Court were at that Time betrayed, I believe will be admitted, and the Secret of his deſigned Attempt might be known, by his applying for Leave of Abſence from his Poſt during the Time that he ſhould be engaged in this Undertaking. Or the Perſons with whom he

correſponded in *England* might be apprized of his intended Voyage, as he could not, at that Time of Day, be ſupplied with every Thing that was neceſſary thereto in *America*; and as he intended to trade, he would be for procuring his Goods from *England*. By ſome of theſe Means probably his Deſign perſpired, and was ſecretly and unexpectedly, tranſmitted to the Court of *Spain*.

There are ſeveral Reaſons to be aſſigned why both Viceroys ſhould be informed, not only the Viceroy of *Peru*, in whoſe Diſtrict the Ships were to be fitted, but the Viceroy of *New Spain* alſo. That if a Paſſage was made by any other Way than where the Ships were to be ſtationed to intercept the *Boſton* Men, or they accidentally paſſed ſuch Ships, the Viceroys might order a Look-out alſo to be kept. And ſuch a Proviſion being made, it would be ſcarce poſſible, if a Paſſage was obtained, that the *Boſton* People ſhould get clear out of thoſe Seas, and not fall into the Hands of the *Spaniards*. Another Reaſon is, that ſuch Particulars as *de Fonte* was to put in for on the Coaſt of *Mexico* might be ready, that *de Fonte* might not meet with the leaſt Delay, as ſuch Delay might occaſion the Diſappointment of his Deſign.

The Letter proceeds, ‘ Upon which, I Admiral *de Fonte*, received ‘ Orders from *Spain* and the Viceroys to equip four Ships of Force.’ Theſe Words, *upon which*, I underſtand not to allude to the Advice given the Viceroys, but refer to the Attempt intended from *Boſton*, and as to which he had received his Orders from *Spain*. But from the Viceroys he received Orders only as to the Equipment of the four Ships, as Orders of that Nature would regularly proceed from them. If it was otherwiſe, and he had alſo received his Orders from them, containing Inſtructions as to the Conduct of his Voyage, he would have made his Report to the Viceroys as to the Manner in which he had conducted his Voyage, and they would have reported it to the Court.

De Fonte mentioning the Viceroys ſo ſimply and plainly, without any reſpectful or diſtinguiſhing Additions, is an Inſtance that this Letter was wrote to the Court of *Spain*, it not being proper, in a Letter ſo addreſſed, to mention the Viceroys in any other Manner; and as it is alſo evident from the Expreſſion, *I Admiral de Fonte*, that he did not write this

this Letter in his private Capacity, but as an Admiral, therefore this Letter could not be otherwhere addreſſed than to ſuch Court, to tranſmit an Account how he had executed theſe Orders, which he had received immediately from *Spain*.

De Fonte mentioning that the Advice which the Viceroys received was from the Court of *Spain*, and that the Orders he received were from *Spain*, carries a Diſtinction with it as though the Advice and the Orders were not tranſmitted from the ſame Perſons. Thoſe who tranſmitted the Advice to the Viceroys were not ſeemingly in the Secret, as to the particular Orders or Inſtructions which were ſent to *de Fonte*, as to the Manner in which he was to conduct his Voyage. It was the Province of the Admiral of *Caſtile*, who was ſtiled Captain General of the Sea, who was ſubject to no Controul but the King's, to iſſue all Orders relative to maritime Affairs, and therefore *de Fonte*'s Orders might come from him. Or otherwiſe theſe Orders were immediately tranſmitted by the *Conde de Olivarez*, who was on ill Terms with the Admiral, and regarded no Forms, under the Sanction of the Favour he had with the King, whom he influenced to authorize all his Meaſures. It is alſo conſiſtent with the Conduct of *Don Olivarez* that this Affair ſhould be managed in this Manner, who was always myſterious, confided in his own Judgment, ſingular in his Manners, and therefore was called a Lover of Projects, and ſuppoſed a meer Viſionary in ſome of them. He did not want for Perſons of the greateſt Abilities to aſſiſt him, and the Accuracy with which the Orders are compoſed that were ſent to *de Fonte*, (as may be collected from the Manner in which the Voyage is conducted, and in which it cannot be ſuppoſed *de Fonte* was left to his Diſcretion) is an Inſtance there had been no Want of the Aſſiſtance of able, ſagacious and experienced Perſons in the compoſing of ſuch Orders and Inſtructions.

The Deſign of this introductory Part is to ſhew the Proceedings in this Affair previous to his Voyage; that the Advice was received, and the Orders ſubſequent were obeyed; and it is drawn with peculiar Care and a Conciſeneſs which would be cenſured in a Voyage Writer, but is uſed with the greateſt Propriety on this Occaſion.

The Names of the Ships are agreeable to the Manner that the *Spaniards* name theirs; and by Ships of Force is not meant either their Caracks or Galeons, but Country Ships, which the Equipment ſeems to

imply, made defenſible againſt any Attacks of the Natives, and to have nothing to fear from the *Boſton* Men, and theſe Ends could be obtained in Veſſels which had no great Draught of Water, as the Rivers they were to paſs up and the Lakes required, and of a Tonnage ſuitable to thoſe Northern Seas, therefore *de Fonte* only expreſſes their Names, and their Commanders, ſays nothing of their Rates.

De Fonte, in his Courſe from the *Callao* of *Lima*, and in all his ſubſequent Courſes through the Voyage, computes his Diſtance after the Marine Manner, from that Land from where he takes his Departure to the Land made when he enters a Harbour, or the Termination of the Land which makes ſuch Harbour to Seaward; and here takes his Departure from the extreme Part of the *Callao* of *Lima*, which is in the Latitude 11° 5′ S. Longitude 80° 39′ W. and from which to *St. Helena*, being North of the Bay of *Guiaguil*, in Lat. 2° 5′ S. Long. 84° 6′ W. is two hundred Leagues; and there is no Fault in the Impreſſion, as hath been ſuppoſed. Though theſe Words, *on the North Side of the Bay* of *Guiaguil* ſeem to be an Interpolation.

The Diſtance ſaid to be run between the *Callao* of *Lima* and *St. Helena* is not reconcileable with the Accounts publiſhed by *Dampier*, *Wood Rogers*, or the Accounts in general, excepting with a Copy of a *Spaniſh* Manuſcript, of the Latitudes and Longitudes of the moſt noted Places in the *South Seas*, corrected from the lateſt Obſervations, by *Manuel Monz. Prieto*, Profeſſor of Arts in *Peru*, whoſe Computation of Longitude is from the Meridian of *Paris*; but he fixes *Lima* at full eighty Degrees. I uſe *Prieto*'s Tables in this, and principally in all my ſubſequent Computations, though *de Fonte* no where mentions the Longitude in this Letter, as he only regards the Difference of the Meridian of *Lima*. And it by no Means invalidates but favours the Authenticity of this Account, that *de Fonte* differs in his Computation from the *Engliſh* and *French* Accounts at, and after thoſe Times, which alſo differ from each other, as they only ranged along the Coaſts of thoſe Seas, judged of their Diſtances according to their Journals, and muſt have made many vague Obſervations, as to the Latitude of Places, by Inſpection of the Land from Sea, and which Land they might not certainly know. Their beſt Directions they got from Manuſcript Journals,

or

or Sea Waggoners, compoſed for their own Uſe by Coaſters. But the navigating of the King's Ships were better provided for in this reſpect; and we may well ſuppoſe that *de Fonte* was not, on this Occaſion, deficient in Artiſts well verſed in the Theory as well as the Practice of Navigation, and under this Character of an Artiſt we may conſider *Parmentiers*. The Truth, as to the Latitude, once fixed is not variable by Time; and in this reſpect *de Fonte* and *Prieto* muſt agree, though a Century between the Time of their Computations.

The Expreſſion, 'anchored in the Port of *St. Helena* (in *Spaniſh*, *Santa Elena*) *within the Cape*,' hath ſomething more particular in it than appears on a tranſient View. The Point of *St. Helena* is thus deſcribed in the ſailing Directions in the *Atlas Maritimus*, publiſhed in 1728. 'The Point itſelf is high, but as you come nearer in there is a lower Point runs out ſharpening towards the Sea.' And there are two diſtinct Anchorages within this Port, one within the lower Point, here Veſſels ride without Shelter, and amongſt Banks and Shoals. Under the high Land, there is the other Anchorage, deep Water, and ſecure riding.' Under this high Land, being called the Port within the Cape, is a Diſtinction which I do not find made by the Voyage Writers, or in any other of the ſailing Directions for theſe Parts that I have ſeen; and *de Fonte* particularly mentions, as it may be ſuppoſed, being in Conformity with his Inſtructions.

De Fonte taking in the *Betumen* muſt have been in purſuance of his Inſtructions, and there provided for him by Order of the Viceroy.

That which follows, called vulgarly Tar, *&c.* ſeems to be an Interpolation, or additional Comment, though not diſtinguiſhed as ſuch; and it may be obſerved here is a different Mode of Expreſſion, and a Want of that Conciſeneſs which apparently precedes. If with theſe Words took *a Quantity of Betumen*, we connect *on the 10th we paſſed the Equinoctial*, then that Conciſeneſs and Simplicity of the Narration is preſerved. It is inconſiſtent that *de Fonte* ſhould inform the Court, that it was not for Want of Tar that he put into this Port, and that he did not procure this *Betumen* to uſe inſtead of Tar, but to make Uſe of it as Medicine. The taking the *Betumen* aboard ſufficiently intimated his Compliance with

with his Inſtructions. The Expreſſion, *we took it in for Medicine*, hath ſomething particular in it, ſeems to be a Note or Memorandum added by ſome Perſon who made the Voyage, to inſtruct a Friend for whom he made, or to whom he gave, a Copy of this Letter.

The one Degree ſeven Minutes of Latitude is miſplaced, Cape *St. Franciſco* being by no Geographers or Voyage Writers placed in that Latitude; the one Degree ſeven Minutes is the Latitude of the River *St. Jago*, and which *Prieto* lays down in one Degree eight Minutes.

As to the Courſes and Diſtances eighty Leagues N. N. W. and twenty-five Leagues E. and by S. which were placed in the Margin in the firſt Edition, but are ſince crept into the Text. N. N. W. is a Courſe entirely contrary, and inſtead of one there is two Courſes, North and North Eaſt, and which two Courſes are conſiſtent with the E. and by S. Courſe twenty-five Leagues, as that Courſe will then terminate in the Latitude and Longitude of the River *Jago*. This Error of North Weſt for North Eaſt may be accounted for by remarking, that in the *Spaniſh* Compaſs North Eaſt and North Weſt are rendered *Nord Eſte* and *Nord Oeſte:* The Omiſſion of the *O* in *eſte* is a Fault which may be committed even by a careful Tranſcriber, or may be a Miſtake in the Tranſlator, for Want of due Attention to the Compaſs.

In the Paſſage from *St. Helena* he would keep the Coaſt aboard, for the Benefit of a fair and freſh Wind, and which he would have without any Interruption from the Land Breezes, and by ſtanding N. W. to clear the Iſlands of *Solango* and *Paita*, and then ſtand North Eaſterly would form a North Courſe of one Hundred and Thirty-two Miles, or forty-four Leagues, and then be off Cape *Paſſao*, in N. Lat. 8′. Long. 83° 59′ W. and well in with ſuch Cape, as it is evident he was from the Expreſſion in the Letter by the Cape *del Paſſao* with a North Eaſt Courſe, thirty-ſix Leagues, they would be in Lat. 1° 23′ North, Long. 82° 50′, and ſo have paſſed Cape *Franciſco*, N. Lat. 50′, Long. 82° 55′, and with an Eaſt and by South Courſe twenty-five Leagues, would be in the Lat. 1° 8′, Long. 81° 36′, the Latitude and Longitude of the River *St. Jago*.

There

There was not ſuch a Proviſion Country, it appeats from later Accounts, on any Part of the Coaſt between this and *Lima*; nor could the Ships be any where brought up with greater Safety: *St. Helena* is deſcribed as a poor and barren Part of the Country.

The Health of his People, liable to ſcorbutick Diſorders in the northern Climates whither he was going, was an Object that muſt be attended to, in order that the Voyage ſhould meet with the deſired Succeſs. Therefore after the *Betumen*, he recruits what he had conſumed of his freſh Proviſion in his run from *Lima*, and lays in a great additional Store, as is apparent if we conſider that their Conſumption in this reſpect is not proportionable to ours, from their Mode of dreſſing it. And we may judge from having ſo great a Quantity of Fowl ready, with Goats and Hogs, the People had received Orders to be thus provided againſt the Ships Arrival; the Sailors would be a great Aſſiſtance in curing the Proviſions, the Fleſh as well as the Fiſh, and would do it in the moſt ſuitable Manner for the Sea Service; a Number of Hands, gave an Expedition ſo as the Proviſions would not be ſpoiled by the Heat of the Sun; and his Victualling detained *de Fonte* four Days.

Six Miles and a half, or *the Left Hand the River is navigable for ſmall Veſſels*, and all that follows ſeems by Way of Comment, and to be a ſpurious Interpolation, as alſo, *which are there wild and in plenty.*

'The 16th of *April* we ſailed from the River of *St. Jago* to the Port
'and Town *Raleo*, 320 Leagues W. N. W. a little weſterly, in about
'11 Decrees 14 Min. of N. Latitude, leaving Mount *St. Miguel*, &c.'

The Point of *Yeaxos*, or the *Sandy Strand*, in Lat. 11° 58′, Long. 93° 31′, which covers the Port of *Raleo* (or *Realejo)* is three Hundred and twenty Leagues from the River *St. Jago*; but the Courſe N. 47° 30′ W. or N. W. almoſt a Quarter Weſt, and by the Expreſſion *a little* Weſterly, the W. N. W. ſeems to mean, he ſteered firſt Weſt from the River *St. Jago*, until he made the high Land, and then North-weſt, a little Weſterly.

Between Mount *Miguel* and Point *Cazarnina* (rightly *Caravina*) is the Entrance in the Bay of *Amapalla*, which is to the Northward of the Port of *Realejo*; therefore the leaving Mount *St. Miguel* on the Larboard, *&c.* being an abſolute Contradiction to *de Fonte* entering the Port of *Realejo*, is an Interpolation and not inſerted by the Perſon who wrote the Letter, but a Comment very injudiciouſly added by Way of Explanation. From this Circumſtance the Truth of my Aſſertion appears, as to there being Gloſſes and Comments added to the original Text, and that I had good Reaſon to believe ſeveral Places in the preceding Part of this Account to be Interpolations added by Way of Comment.

The great Ships that are built in *New Spain* are built in *Raleo* is diſpoſed in the Margin in the firſt Edition; but in all the ſubſequent Editions hath crept into the Text. We may ſuppoſe the W. N. W. Courſe hath crept into the Text in the firſt Edition to make room for this Comment, as may be judged from the Courſe between *St. Helena* and *St. Jago* being placed in the Margin: And there is an apparent Reaſon for the Courſe and Diſtances being ſo placed, for when inſerted in the Text, they interrupt the Attention; and as the Courſes and Diſtances were all that was neceſſary to be mentioned, the Latitudes have been ſince added by ſome injudicious Perſon.—The Latitude of *Paſſao*, of Cape *St. Franciſco*, is not mentioned, and the Latitude of *Raleo* is wrong, which the Courſe and Diſtance ſhews, and its Latitude is in moſt Maps agreeable to the Courſe and Diſtance here given. The Run, allowing *de Fonte* eight Days, would be but one hundred Miles in twenty-four Hours, which is very moderate going. Nor can there be any Objection, as to the Truth of this Account, from the Time that *de Fonte* is ſailing between the *Callao* of *Lima* to *St. Helena*, from *St. Helena* to *St. Jago*.

All that belongs to the original Letter I take to be this, The 16th of *April* we ſailed from the River *St. Jago* to the Port and Town of *Raleo*; here we bought (which probably might as well be rendered procured) four long well-ſailed Shallops, built expreſs for ſailing, riding at Anchor, *&c.* The 320 Leagues W. N. W. a little Weſterly, I ſuppoſe to have been placed in the Margin.

It cannot be ſuppoſed that Boats ſo fitted, and four of them, could be procured in ſo ſmall a Time as *de Fonte* ſtaid here, it implies they were previouſly provided before that he arrived, to be ready at the Arrival of the Ships.

'The 26*th* we ſailed from *Raleo* for the Port of *Saragua*, or rather of '*Salagua*, within the Iſlands and Shoals of *Chamily*, 480 Leagues 'N. W. and by Weſt, a little Weſterly from *Raleo*. From the Town 'of *Saragua*, a little Eaſt of *Chamily* at *Saragua*, and from *Compoſtilo* in 'the Neighbourhood of this Port, we took in a Maſter and ſix Mari-'ners accuſtomed to trade with the Natives for Pearl the Natives 'catched on a Bank in 19 Degrees of Latitude North from the *Baxos* 'of *St. Juan* in 24 Degrees of North Latitude, 20 Leagues N. N. E. 'from Cape *Saint Lucas*, the South-eaſt Point of *California*.'

The Point of *Yeaxos* is laid down in Lat. 11 Deg. 58 Min. Long. 93 Deg. 31 Min. and with a Courſe North-weſt and by Weſt, a little Weſterly, Diſtance four Hundred and eighty Leagues, *de Fonte* would be at the Iſlands of *Chiametlas*, in Lat. 22 Deg. 10 Min. Long. 114 Deg. 29 Min.

The Port of *Saragua*, or rather of *Salagua* (which is properly *Zuelagua*) is thus deſcribed. 'The Mount of *Sant Jago* is in the Port of '*Zuelagua*. There are two very good Harbours which have good an-'choring Ground, and will hold a great many Ships, by reaſon they are 'great and are called the *Calletas*. On the North-weſt Side of the ſaid 'Bay is another very good Port, which is called likewiſe the Port of '*Zuelagua*. You will find in it a River of freſh Water, and ſeveral Plan-'tations. At the Sea Side is a Pathway that leads to the Town of *Zue-'lagua*, being four and a half Miles from the Port within Land. Be-'tween the Port of *Zuelagua* and the white Ferrelon (or Rock) is a very 'good Port, in which you are Land-locked from all Winds.'

From this Deſcription it is eaſy to comprehend what is *de Fonte*'s Meaning as to the Port of *Zuelagua*, where he took in his Maſter and Mariners on the North-weſt Side of the Bay, and which he expreſſes by, at *Saragua* a little Eaſt of *Chamily*; and which Maſter and Mari-

ners were not promiſcuouſly taken, but were choſen Men, as they were taken both from *Zuelagua* and *Compoſtilo*, in the Neighbourhood of the Port. *Zuelagua* ſeems originally the City which was called *Xaliſco*; but from its unhealthy Situation, *Compoſtilo* was built more within Land; yet the former continuing to be a Port, ſome Inhabitants remained there.

The Iſlands and Shoals of *Chiametla*, which the Tranſlation renders *Chamily*, which is a Name given to Iſlands South of Cape *Corientes*. But the Diſtinction is the Iſlands to Northward of Cape *Corientes* are called *Chiametla*, thoſe to Southward *Chametla* and *Camilli*. *Prieto* agrees with *de Fonte*'s firſt mentioning the Iſlands of *Chiametlas* in Lat. 22. 10. Long. 114. 29. and then *El mal Pays y mal outradu.*

This Maſter and Mariners were accuſtomed to trade with the Natives for Pearl, which the Natives catched on a Bank in nineteen Degrees of Latitude, being North from the *Baxos of St. Juan*, or the Bank of *St. John*, which is in twenty-four Degrees of North Latitude, and twenty Leagues North North-eaſt from Cape *Saint Lucas*, the South-eaſt Point of *California*; and this Account *de Fonte* had either from themſelves, or the Character that was ſent with them, to ſhew the moſt proper Perſons had been provided to anſwer the Purpoſe for which they were procured. And all that belongs to the Text is, which the Natives catched on a Bank North from the *Baxos St. Juan*, twenty Leagues N. N. E. from Cape *St. Lucas*.

'The Maſter Admiral *de Fonte* had hired, with his Veſſel and Mari-
'ners, who had informed the Admiral that, 200 Leagues North from
'Cape *St. Lucas*, a Flood from the North met the South Flood, and
'that he was ſure it muſt be an Iſland, and *Don Diego Penneloſſa* un-
'dertook to diſcover whether it was an Iſland or not, with his Ship and
'the four Shallops they bought at *Raleo*, and the Maſter and Mariners
'they hired at *Zuelagua*.'

Here the Thread of the Letter is broke, and the Tranſlator proceeds as with a common Narrative of a Voyage. The Maſter might be eaſily deceived as to the Tide, as Time hath ſhewn in many Inſtances as to other Perſons having been deceived in like Manner in other Parts.

That

That we have no Account of what was the Event of this Expedition *Penneloſſa*, who had undertaken the Charge, being no more to join *de Fonte*, as it was unneceſſary and to no Purpoſe, *Penneloſſa* would return firſt and ſend his Account to Court. *De Fonte* could in this Caſe do no further than ſhew he had ſent him on this Service, it muſt be ſuppoſed, agreeable to his Inſtructions. Which, from the Boats brought from *Realejo*, (and muſt be of a particular Conſtructure, the like of which were not to be any where elſe on the Coaſt) and the Maſter and Mariners hired here, it is evident, was before propoſed, that *Penneloſſa* ſhould go on this Part of the Expedition, not on the Maſter's declaring that there was a Tide from the Northward, and ſo *California* an Iſland. This was only mentioned by *de Fonte*, to ſhew what Intelligence he had got in this Affair.

The Account given of *Penneloſſa* could be evidently no Part of the Letter. What is ſaid as to his Deſcent, his being a Nobleman, his Addreſs to Coſmography, and the Undertaking of this Diſcovery, muſt evidence as already ſaid, whoever inſerted the Account was ſatisfied as to their being ſuch a Perſon ſo accompliſhed, and who aſpired to undertake this Part of the Expedition. A Diſcovery of theſe Parts would carry, at this Time particularly, great Reputation and Honour with it, and by this Opportunity to intercept Perſons on a Deſign ſo prejudicial to the Intereſts of the Court of *Spain* in thoſe Parts, as it was then thought, had *Penneloſſa* ſucceeded; he would have had no ſmall Share of Merit; or if he did not ſucceed, the Merit of the Attempt would be accounted of, and not unjuſtly, it would be a Means of his Promotion through the Connections he had, as they would urge he did not purſue thoſe Sciences for Speculation only, but to carry them into Practice for the Service of his Country. And according to the Regulations Don *Olivarez* had made, there was no Preferment but what was in conſequence of Service.

Siſter's Son of *Don Lewis de Haro*, and a young Nobleman, expreſſes as of the Time preſent, when the Copy was taken from which we have the Publication; and *Don Haro*, *Prime Miniſter of Spain*, was a Gloſs added by another Hand. Neither is *Don Luis de Haro* the Perſon here meant, for he does not ſeem to have been of an Age to have had a Siſter who could be Mother to *Don Ronquillo*; but *Don Lopez de Haro* is

is the Perſon meant, *Marquis de Carpio*, the Father of *Don Luis*, who was at that Time Gentleman of the Chamber to the King, and afterwards Prime Miniſter, and muſt be underſtood the Son of his Wife's Siſter, who was a Daughter of *Olivarez*, married to the *Marquis de Valderiabano*.

'But Admiral *de Fonte*, with the other three Ships, ſailed from them 'within the Iſlands of *Chamilly* the 10th *May* 1640, and having the 'Length of Cape *Abel* on the W. S. W. Side of *California*, in 26 De-'grees of N. Latitude, 160 Leagues N. W. and W. from the Iſles '*Chamilly*; the Wind ſprung up at S. S. E. a ſteady Gale, that from 'the 26*th* of *May* to the 14*th* of *June* he had ſailed to the River *Los* '*Reys*, in 53 Degrees of North Latitude, not having Occaſion to lower 'a Topſail, in ſailing 866 Leagues N. N. W. 410 Leagues from Port '*Abel* to Cape *Blanco*, 456 Leagues to *Riolos Reyes*, all the Time moſt 'pleaſant Weather, and ſailed about 260 Leagues in crooked Channels, 'amongſt Iſlands named the *Archipelagus de St. Lazarus*; where his 'Ships Boats always ſailed a Mile a-head, ſounding to ſee what Water, 'Rocks, and Sands, there was.'

De Fonte and *Penneloſſa* both put out to Sea together; but as their Courſes were various, one to the Weſtward of *California*, and the other to enter the Gulf. They parted within the Shoals of *Chiametla* the tenth of *May* 1640; and *de Fonte* attaining the Length of *Cape Abel* in Latitude 26, one Hundred and ſixty Leagues North North-weſt and Weſt from the Iſles of *Chiametla*, he then meets with a fair Wind from South South-eaſt. By the Latitude of Cape *Abel*, and the Diſtance run, it is apparent that the Iſlands *Chiametla* mentioned, are the Iſlands here meant.

De Fonte, after running one Hundred and ſixty Leagues from the Iſles of *Chiametla*, in Lat. 22 Deg. 10 Min. and Long. 114 Deg. 29 Min. attaining the Length of Cape *Abel* in Latitude 26, his Courſe could not be North-weſt and Weſt, but North-weſt by Weſt weſterly, or 61° 22′. *and*, inſtead of, *by*, may be ſuppoſed an Error of the Preſs.

Dr. *Heylin* mentions a convenient Haven named *St. Abad*, who wrote near theſe Times. But it is *Chriſtabel*, or *Chriſteval*, the Name of a

Cape the Extremity of the Land, which forms a Harbour or Port of the ſame Name *Chriſtabel*. *Prieto* mentions no Place on the main Land but the three Iſlands of *Caſonas*, which lie off at Sea, ſo more to Weſtward than this Cape. They are in Lat. 26 Deg. Long. 122 Deg. 24 Min. the Longitude of Cape *Abel* I make in 122 Deg. 11 Min. and he lays down the Point of *Madelena* in 26 Deg. 30 Min. and the Long. 123 Deg. 24 Min. which ſeems to be the northermoſt Land of ſuch Harbour. By *de Fonte* mentioning the Latitude of this Cape, and not any other, he may be ſuppoſed to take from hence a new Departure, as was uſual with the *Spaniards* when they came to this Length in theſe Seas, ſo *Prieto* mentions *Las Bajas de los Abraja*, *Primier Meridiano*. Lat. 25° 15′. Long. 121 Deg. 54 Min. from *Lima*.

De Fonte in his Run from *Chiametla* met with contrary Winds; but when the Length of Cape *Abel*, he had Wind and Weather rather unexpected in thoſe Parts; and the Spring not being much advanced, he rather expected to have been, at Times, under his Courſes, which is meant by the Expreſſion afterwards uſed, that he never had occaſion to lower a Topſail, and is conformable with its being a ſteady Gale, or did not overblow. As the Run to *Los Reys* terminated the fourteenth of *June*, *de Fonte*, for the whole eight Hundred and ſixty Leagues, ſailed after the Rate of forty-five Leagues in twenty-four Hours, which is conſiſtent with and agreeable to the Seamens common Experience, when favoured with ſuch Wind and Weather. Amongſt the Iſlands would have the Aſſiſtance of the Floods, and Wind enough to ſtem the Ebbs.

The Computation of the eight Hundred and ſixty-ſix Leagues is four Hundred and ten Leagues to Cape *Blanquial*, to which there is a Courſe aſſigned North North-weſt; and as to four Hundred and fifty-ſix Leagues to *Rio los Reys*, no Courſes are added, which we may aſſign to the Courſes being originally in the Margin, when one was introduced into the Copy the other was neglected. And we have juſt Reaſon to ſuſpect the Careleſſneſs here, as it is firſt called *Cape Abel*, then *Port Abel*, and the River *Los Reys* in 53 Degrees, and afterwards *Rio los Reys*, as tho' they were diſtinct and ſeparate. With the N. N. W. Courſe *Rio los Reys* could not be in the Latitude *de Fonte* mentions.

Port

Port Abel, Latitude 26, Long. 122° 11′, and the *Callao* of *Lima*, being laid down Longitude 60 Weſt from the firſt Meridian of *Fero*, and hitherto we have carried on our Computation of Longitude 80 from *Paris*, we ſhall hereafter compute from *Fero* and *London*; and Cape *Chriſtable* we compute 102° 11′ from the Meridian of *Fero*, or 119° 46′ from the Meridian of *London*.

The Courſe four Hundred and ten Leagues North North-weſt, *de Fonte* made Cape *Blanquial* in Latitude 45, Longitude from *London* 129° 28′, from the Meridian of *Fero* 111° 53′, to Northward and Weſtward of the Entrance of *Martin Aquilar*. Sufficient Obſervations have not been made to determine by the Geographers as to the true Latitudes and Longitudes of theſe Places, and, until they attain more perfect Informations, muſt diſagree.

The Courſe from *Blanquial* is not inſerted, but is to be determined by the Diſtance two Hundred and ſixty Leagues, ending in Latitude 53 at *Rio los Reys*. *De Fonte* had, during the whole Time between *Abel* and *Los Reys*, the Wind in his Favour. Therefore his Courſe muſt have been to the Northward of the Eaſt; and if he run two Hundred and ſixty Leagues, with a Courſe Eaſt 52° North, he would make 2 Deg. 1 Min. Latitude, and 20 Deg. 24 Min. Longitude. To correſpond with which *de Fonte* muſt, for the one Hundred and ninety-ſix Leagues, made his Courſe North 52 Deg. Weſt, which would determine in Latitude 50 Deg. 59 Min. and in Long. 141 Deg. 12 Min. from *London*, in 123 Deg. 27 Min. Weſt from *Fero*. *De Fonte* would then be about thirty Leagues from the Land, agreeable to the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries, tho' this Voyage was made ſo many Years before that Attempt; a great Evidence of the Authenticity of this Account. His Conduct alſo in this Caſe was neceſſary, conſiſtent with the Character of a good Seaman, not to make the Coaſt direct, or immediately engage with this *Archipelago*, to which he was a Stranger, and in Parts unknown, or where he had no ſailing Directions but to form ſuch Courſe as gradually to fall in with the Land, and, as the Wind was, if he ſaw Occaſion, could at any Time ſtand off.

De Fonte by this Courſe, agreeable to the Latitude of the *Sueſta del Eſtrech D'Anian*, which is laid down by *Prieto* in Latitude 51, would be

to

to the Southern Part of the Entrance into ſuch *Archipelago*, had he been Northward, as the Wind was, he would have regained it with great Difficulty and Loſs of Time.

As this Table of *Prieto* was compoſed before the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries, and this Land, the *Sueſta del Eſtrech D'Anian*, is computed in Longitude 141 Deg. 47 Min. computing *Lima* at 80 Deg. anſwerable to 238 Deg. 13 Min. Eaſt Longitude from *Fero*, it is a little ſingular that theſe Accounts ſhould agree ſo well, as to the Longitude of this Part of *America*; is an Inſtance that *Prieto* did not proceed upon vague Calculations; had acquired a more exact Account than could be even ſuppoſed in theſe unfrequented Parts, and from his Care and Exactneſs, as to the more known Parts, we have no Reaſon to doubt but he hath laid down the Latitude and Longitude of the *Sueſta del Eſtrech de Anian*, with the greateſt Certainty that he could attain to.

I ſhall not controvert it whether theſe are the proper Streights of *Anian*. This Entrance was commonly called amongſt the Navigators into thoſe Parts by that Name, as is evident from former Accounts; and *Hornius*, from his Maps, which may be ſeen in *Purchaſe*, lays it down in the ſame Manner. My Intention is anſwered in producing an Authority from the *Spaniards* of *New Spain*, that there is an Entrance here agreeable to the Account in this Letter; alſo, in all Appearance, a ſuperior Entrance to that of *Martin Aguilar*, which *Prieto* doth not expreſly mention; neither could he properly; but inſerts Cape *Eſcondido* in Lat. 43, and Cape *Blanquial* in Lat. 45, an intermediate Diſtance of one Hundred and twenty Miles. Again mentions the Port of *Salagua* in Lat. 46, and then the Port of *Salado* in Lat. 48; in which Interſpace the Entrance of *de Fuca* is ſuppoſed to be.

By the Name *Archipelago*, *de Fonte*, who would give the Name with Propriety, expreſſes it to be a Sea; and on his Return ſays, he ſailed down the River *Los Reys* to the North-eaſt *Part* of the *South Sea*; after that returned home. Where the Word *Part*, properly ſpeaking, or to uſe the Word as it really imports, can be no otherwiſe underſtood than as an Arm or Branch of the *South Sea*. Had he ſteered eight Hundred and ſixty-ſix Leagues North North-weſt, he muſt neceſſarily have tra-

verſed the Courſes of thoſe brave Diſcoverers Capt. *Beering* and *Tſchirikow*, which were from Lat. 45 in *Aſia*, to Lat. 56 and 58 in *America*, and who were not interrupted by any ſuch Iſlands. Capt. *Tſchirikow* poſitively ſays, the Coaſt was without Iſlands where he was in Lat. 56; by Capt. *Beering*'s Account in Lat. 58, the Iſlands lay only *along* the Coaſt; and *de Fonte* in his Account mentions, that he ſailed in crooked Channels, amongſt Iſlands. Theſe various Deſcriptions ſhew that theſe Accounts relate to various Parts. As *de Fonte* could not, in the whole Extent between *Aſia* and *America*, meet with ſuch Iſlands, and yet was under a Neceſſity to paſs up crooked Channels, with no ſmall Hazard, as the Boats being a-head expreſs, his Courſe muſt have been to the Eaſtward of where Captain *Tſchirikow* fell in with the Land, and for the Diſtance of the two Hundred and thirty Leagues before *de Fonte* came to a River, to *Los Reyes*, was then paſſing up the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*, as he terms it, and in ſome Part of which there were Iſlands, which he names the *Archipelagus of St. Lazarus*. There is a Singularity of Expreſſion in the Letter, *where* his Boats always ſailed a-head, the Word *where* limits the Iſlands to a certain Space, and that they were not extended the whole two Hundred and thirty Leagues, which is conſiſtent with the Expedition he made, as otherwiſe the Ships muſt have often ſhortened ſail, and it could not be avoided, and muſt have frequently brought up at Night.

As *de Fonte* did neither make the South or North Shore of this Streight, the moſt comprehenſive Way of expreſſing himſelf was to ſay, he paſſed up theſe Iſlands, by which thoſe who had compoſed his Inſtructions well knew the Parts he meant. It muſt be conſidered *de Fonte* was not as to this Part on Diſcovery, the Whole would be pointed out to him by his Inſtructions, which being to fall in with the Iſlands, or Entrance in ſuch a Latitude, to mention either the North or South Limit of the Entrance would be improper; whereas the contrary was the Caſe as to Cape *St. Helena*, *Franciſco*, *Paſſao*, and Cape *Abel*, as his Inſtructions were expreſs, as to the making theſe Lands.

As *de Fonte* made a true Courſe Eaſt 81° North, ſubtract the Longitude 20 Deg. 24 Min. from the Longitude 141 Deg. 12 Min. from *London*, and from the 123 Deg. 27 Min. from *Fero*. The Entrance to the

River *Los Reys* lies in Lat. 53 Deg. Long. 120 Deg. 48 Min. from *London*, and 103 Deg. 3 Min. Weſt from *Fero*. And that his Courſe was now Eaſterly is plain from the ſubſequent Words of the Letter, *as they ſailed more Eaſterly*. It was alſo conſiſtent with the Purpoſe they were ſent on, to meet a Veſſel from *Boſton*.

'The 22d of *June* Admiral *de Fonte* diſpatched one of his Captains 'to *Pedro de Barnarda*, to ſail up a fair River, a gentle Stream, and 'deep Water, went firſt N. and N. E. N. and N. W. into a large Lake 'full of Iſlands, and one very large *Peninſula* full of Inhabitants, a 'friendly honeſt People in this Lake, he named Lake *Valaſco*, where 'Captain *Barnarda* left his Ship; nor all up the River was leſs than '4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 Fathom Water, both the Rivers and Lakes abound-'ing with Salmon Trouts, and very large white Perch, ſome of two 'Foot long; and with three large *Indian* Boats, by them called *Periagos*, 'made of two large Trees 50 or 60 Foot long. Capt. *Barnarda* firſt 'ſailed from his Ships in the Lake *Valaſco*, one Hundred and forty 'Leagues Weſt, and then 436 E. N. E. to 77 Degrees of Latitude. 'Admiral *de Fonte*, after he had diſpatched Capt. *Barnarda* on the Diſ-'covery of the North and Eaſt Part of the *Tartarian Sea*.'

We may ſuppoſe, from the Manner in which this Part was managed, that there was a great Neceſſity to get the Tranſlation finiſhed in any Manner. As the Difficulties of the Tranſlation increaſed, the Deſign of this Account being only Amuſement, the Tranſlator thought it would anſwer the Purpoſe to give the Account in groſs.

The Date, the 22d *June*, is an apparent Error, by reaſon *de Fonte* did not enter into Lake *Belle*, as will be ſhewn hereafter, until that Time.

Admiral *de Fonte* diſpatched one of his Captains to *Pedro de Barnarda*, to ſail up a fair River, gentle Stream, and deep Water. Then the Tranſlation breaks off abruptly, and the Tranſlator renders the following Part as an Account of *Bernarda*'s Voyage, not obſerving how juſt a Connection there is with *de Fonte* diſpatching one of his Captains to *Bernarda*; and what follows being the Orders ſent by him, and the In-

ſtructions for *Bernarda*; inſtead of being *Bernarda*'s Account of his Expedition, and not obſerving how conſiſtent it is with being a ſummary Recital of thoſe Inſtructions theſe Words are which follow, Admiral *de Fonte*, after he had diſpatched Captain *Bernarda* on the Diſcovery, *&c.*

As to his diſpatching one of his Captains, he muſt be ſuppoſed to have beſides the Captain of the Ship he was in, alſo one called an Admiral's Captain. The Inſtructions were of ſuch Conſequence, that a leſs Perſon might not be ſo properly employed, nor conſiſtent with the Reſpect due to *Bernarda*.

De Fonte and *Bernarda* were Strangers here; but theſe Parts had been already diſcovered, as it is expreſly ſaid that *two Pater Jeſuits* had been here two Years, and made Obſervations as far as the Latitude 66. From their Diſcoveries we may conclude, that theſe Inſtructions were formed which *Bernarda* received, and thoſe of the whole Courſe of the Voyage; and it was neceſſary that *de Fonte* ſhould not only mention that he had diſpatched *Bernarda*, but ſhould alſo, with the Brevity due to a Letter, mention the Orders with which he diſpatched him. And further from what is expreſſed in thoſe Orders, as to the River, the Courſe and Soundings, what Fiſh were in the River and Lake, the Road or Harbour which was to be found in the Lake, the Temper and Diſpoſition of the Inhabitants, it evidently appears that there had been a prior Diſcovery of theſe Parts, and Obſervations made of every Thing worthy of Conſideration, and neceſſary alſo at this Time to be mentioned to *Bernarda*. To let him know that his Ship could paſs up the River, would find a Harbour in the Lake, he had nothing to fear from the Natives, and would meet with Proviſions. There leaving his Ship he might be furniſhed with *Periagos* to proceed. And I underſtand his Directions to ſteer firſt North and North-eaſt, then North and North-weſt, that he might make no Miſtake by purſuing or entering into any other Openings which might preſent themſelves in his Courſe up, and which from their Appearance might perplex him, as to which of them he was to enter; no uncommon Thing, as thoſe who have been to Northward on like Undertakings will allow.

'The Admiral ſailed up a very navigable River, which he named '*Rio los Reys*, that run neareſt N. E. but on ſeveral Points of the Com-'paſs 60 Leagues, at low Water, in a fair navigable Channel, not leſs 'than 4 or 5 Fathom Water. It flowed on both Rivers near the ſame. 'Water, in the River *Los Reys*, 24 Feet Full and Change of the Moon; 'a S. S. E. Moon made high Water. It flowed in the River *Haro*, 22. 'Feet and a half Full and Change. They had two Jeſuits with them, 'that had been on their Miſſion to 66 Degrees of North Latitude, and 'had made curious Obſervations.'

De Fonte, having diſpatched *Bernarda*, ſets out on his Part of the Expedition, and proceeds up the River *Los Reys*, at the Entrance of which he had arrived the fourteenth of *June*. During his Stay, until *Bernarda* was diſpatched and ſailed, he ſeems to have taken an accurate Account of the Tides in both Rivers. The Diſtance up the River was more than ſixty Leagues, and though a good navigable Channel, yet would require a great Precaution in his Proceeding with the two Ships; Tide Times and the Night would make it neceſſary for him to bring too; for had he touched the Ground with either of them, the Delay that might have followed on ſuch Accident, might have defeated this Part of the Undertaking, and the moſt important, and which, therefore, was allotted to him to execute.

Their having had two Jeſuits with them ſeems an additional Note. That two Jeſuits ſhould be ſent into thoſe Parts to make Obſervations, is but conſiſtent with the general Practice of the Jeſuits to go on Miſſions into all Parts of the Globe, engaged by a ſpecial Vow, not injoined any other Order, to be always ready to go and preach whitherſoever they ſhall be ſent.

Theſe Jeſuits are by no Means a ſingular Inſtance of the People of that Order being great Adventurers, when we conſider thoſe who ventured to the *Philippinas* and *Japan*, enforced by the Vow, puffed up with the Vanity of popular Applauſe, the Favour of the Preſident, and the Hope of being acceptable to the reſt of the Order on their return from ſuch Miſſion, expecting by ſuch Miſſion to add to the Wealth or Reputation of the Order. The Effect of this Miſſion ſeems to have been they had ac-

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quired the Favour of the Natives. Had made ſome Obſervations of the Country, but principally to Northward, as to which they ſeem not to have got a perfect Account; though they did a great deal for the Time, the Unſeaſonableneſs of the Winter, and the melting Weather in the Spring conſidered; nor is it ſtrange they ſhould not get a perfect Account, in a Country ſo intermixed with Waters, which hide themſelves in their Courſes between inacceſſible Mountains; and in many Places where they are to be come at, are deceitful in their Appearance, as to what they really are, whether Lakes, Gulphs of the Sea, or Inlets. As they proceeded to the Northward, they thought it the Part that principally claimed their Obſervation. Were of Opinion as to the Southward, that it was Part of the Continent of *New Spain*, or they would not have lead *de Fonte* to *Los Reys*, but cauſed him to proceed up that Streight which ſeparated the Part they had been in from *New Spain*. As to this Miſſion not being known to the Publick, theſe Jeſuits muſt have been ſent from *Europe* into *New Spain*; and they would ſo far regard their Obedience to the Pope, as to pay due Reſpect to the King of *Spain*'s Authority, in obſerving the eſtabliſhed Maxim of the Time, as to keep their Diſcoveries a Secret from the Publick or other Nations. And as to all Miſſionaries who went into *New Spain*, the King of *Spain* hath a Power to call them to Account, by the Pope's Permiſſion, though not permitted in *Old Spain* to meddle with eccleſiaſtical Affairs, or eccleſiaſtical Men.

'A Letter from Captain *Barnarda*, dated the 27th of *June* 1740, that 'he had left his Ship in the Lake *Valaſco*, betwixt the Iſlands *Barnarda* 'and the Peninſula *Comihaſſet*, a very ſafe Port; it went down the River 'from the Lake 3 Falls, 80 Leagues, and fell into the *Tartarian* Sea 'in 61 Deg. with the Pater Jeſuits, and 36 Natives, in three of their 'Boats, and 20 of his *Spaniſh* Seamen; that the Land trended away 'North Eaſt; that they ſhould want no Proviſion, the Country abound-'ing with Veniſon of three Sorts, and the Sea and Rivers with excel-'lent Fiſh (Bread, Salt, Oil, and Brandy they carried with them) that 'he ſhould do what was poſſible. The Admiral, when he received the 'Letter from Captain *Barnarda*, was arrived at an *Indian* Town called 'Conoſſet, on the South Side Lake *Belle*, where the two Pater Jeſuits on 'their Miſſion had been two Years; a pleaſant Place. The Admiral, 'with his two Ships, enter'd the Lake the 22d of *June*.'

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The Letter from *Bernarda* being dated the 27th of *June*, it is impoſſible he ſhould finiſh all that Buſineſs in four Days, which he gives *de Fonte* an Account of: This alſo confirms its being a Miſtake as to the 22d of *June*, being the Time he received his Diſpatches. It might well take *Bernarda* from the fourteenth of *June* to the twenty-ſeventh to receive his Diſpatches, to paſs up the River, and to the Peninſula in Lake *Valaſco*, procure the Natives, who were not under his Command, get all Things fitted, and ſet out. And what this Letter contains, makes it evident it could be no Account of his Voyage that was before-mentioned.

This Letter is apparently an Anſwer to the Diſpatches *Bernarda* received from *de Fonte*. He mentions, that he had left his Ship, agreeable to Orders, and in a ſafe Port; gives an Account how he was equipped to proceed; the Number of the Perſons he had with him; that he had thirty-ſix of the Natives, which is conformable to the Character given of them, a friendly honeſt People, and ſhews the Influence of the Jeſuits. Theſe Natives, by joining in the Expedition, were Hoſtages for the good Behaviour of the others towards his People left behind, and an Aſſurance to *Bernarda* for the Security of his Ship left at the Port, were of great Uſe as Pilots as to the Coaſt, and alſo in ſailing and managing their *Periagos*. Their having theſe *Periagos* implies they had a Country abounding with Waters; and it was their uſual Way of paſſing from one Part to another, Time and Experience had made them expert in the Management of them; and by ſhifting from one Part to the other as the Seaſons required for hunting or fiſhing, and by Excurſions out of their own Country either for War or Curioſity, as is the Nature of *Indians*, they were become acquainted not only with the inland Waters, but alſo the Sea Coaſts.

De Fonte had ordered Captain *Bernarda* that he ſhould ſail one Hundred and fifty Leagues Weſt (but is rather to be believed a Miſtake from not underſtanding the Compaſs, *Oeſte* and *Eſte* being ſo ſimilar) and then four Hundred and thirty-ſix Leagues Eaſt North Eaſt to 77 Degrees of Latitude. In Anſwer to which *Bernarda* here mentions, that from the Lake *Valaſco* there was a River in which there was three Falls, eighty Leagues in Diſtance, and fell into the *Tartarian Sea*, in Latitude

61;

61; that the Land trended away North Eaſt, and that he would do what was poſſible. By which Expreſſion it is plain, that he did not purſue the exact Courſe that *de Fonte* directed; probably that Courſe was pointed out to *Bernarda* by which the Jeſuits had travelled to Latitude 66, but purſued a Courſe more immediate and direct to attain to Latitude 77, the Back of *Baffin*'s Bay, as to which the Natives had informed him; and that though he did not purſue the Courſe directed by *de Fonte*, which he found not to be ſo conſiſtent with the Deſign he was ſent on, yet he would do all that was poſſible to anſwer that Deſign. And the Expreſſion alſo implies, that he was ſenſible he ſhould meet with Difficulties, which he might expect from the Climate, the Ice, and the Fatigue; but as to the Article of Proviſions, was in no Fear on that Account. As to what is mentioned as to Veniſon of three Sorts, they were the ſmall Deer, the Mooſe, and the Elk, all which are in the Northern Parts about *Hudſon*'s Bay, and the *Labarador* Coaſt.

The Name of *Haro* given to the River is a particular Compliment to *Don Haro*, who was the Head of the Houſes of *Valaſco*; and the Name of *Valaſco*, in Compliment to the other Houſes, of that Family. Which Reſpect ſhewn by *de Fonte* ſeems to indicate a particular Connection with, or his being related to that Family, as already mentioned. *Valaſco*, as here wrote, with a *va*, as thoſe Families did write it at that Time, and one of that Family, who was Conſtable of *Caſtile*, in his Titles is named *John Ferdinandes de Vallaſco*, Conſtable of *Caſtilia*, &c. now Lord of the Houſes of *Vallaſco*, &c. and by the Orthography in the Letter being ſo conformable with that which was uſed at that Time, and not with a *ve* as at preſent, we have very good Reaſon to ſuppoſe, that the Letter was not only wrote in *Spaniſh*, but alſo by *de Fonte* on his return from his Voyage. Don *Ferdinandez* was living in 1610, and ſucceeded by his Son, in his Title and Honour of Conſtable of *Caſtile*, *Don Bernardino*, who was living at the Time of the Voyage.

'The Admiral entered the Lake an Hour before high Water, and 'there was no Fall or Cataract, and 4 and 5 Fathom Water, and 6 and '7 Fathom Water generally in the Lake *Belle*. There is a little Fall 'of Water half Flood, and an Hour and Quarter before high Water 'the Flood begins to ſet gently into Lake *Belle*: The River is freſh at

'20

'20 Leagues Diſtance from the Mouth or Entrance of the River *Los* '*Reyes*. The River and Lake abounds with Salmon, Salmon Trouts, 'Pikes, Perch and Mullets, and two other Sorts of Fiſh peculiar to 'that River, admirable good; and Lake *Belle* alſo abounds with all 'thoſe Sorts of Fiſh large and delicate: And Admiral *de Fonte* alſo ſays, 'the Mullets catched in *Rios Reyes* and Lake *Belle*, are much delicater 'than are to be found, he believes, in any Part of the World.'

De Fonte was not inactive from the 14th to the 22d of *June*. Various Courſes, contrary Winds, waiting for the Tides at times; from the Circumſtance of the Tide as to Lake *Belle*, that there is a Fall until half Flood, and it is an Hour and Quarter only before high Water that the Flood makes in, evidences that there was a Current againſt him; and it is further evident, as on his return he was but two Days running from *Conoſſet* to the Entrance of the River *Los Reyes*.

De Fonte is very particular in his Account, being now to take a Survey of the Parts through which a Paſſage was expected, and in which Parts he now was. He mentions the Trial of the Tides at *Los Reyes* and *Haro*; gives a particular Account of the Navigation up *Los Reyes*, and to Lake *Belle*; that it was freſh Water after they were ſixty Miles up the River; and what is no immaterial Circumſtance in this Affair, ſhews how far the Waters from Weſtward flowed up, which he inſtances in the Account of the Fiſh. That ſuch as came out of the Sea into the Land or freſh Waters to ſpawn at thoſe Seaſons, and afterwards return to the Sea, went no further than Lake *Belle*; for here he found the Mother Fiſh, as he deſcribes them, large and delicate, ſuperior to thoſe in the River, and indulges his Fancy, ſo delicate as, he believes, they are not to be exceeded in any other Part of the World. *De Fonte*, in his Orders to *Bernarda*, ſhewed it was freſh Water in Part of *Haro*, and in the Lake *Conibaſſet*, from the Salmon and Perch, in which he means Sea Perch, which come into freſh Waters at this Seaſon of the Year.

'The firſt of *July* 1640, Admiral *de Fonte* ſailed from the reſt of his 'Ships in the Lake *Belle*, in a good Port, covered by a fine Iſland, be-'fore the Town of *Conoſſet*, from thence to a River I named *Parmen-*

'*tiers*,

'*tiers*, in Honour of my induſtrious judicious Comrade Mr. *Parmentiers*,
'who had moſt exactly marked every Thing in and about that River.'

We now proceed to conſider the Remainder of Admiral *de Fonte*'s Letter, which was publiſhed in *June* 1708.

Admiral *de Fonte*, when he received the Letter from Capt. *Bernarda*, was arrived at an *Indian* Town called *Conoſſet*, in the Lake *Belle*; and as he entered ſuch Lake the twenty-ſecond, probably arrived at the Town the ſame Day; ſtaid eight Days, and then ſailed the firſt of *July*. That *Bernarda* ſhould write, as to the Situation of his Affairs, muſt have been before concerted between them, they having been informed by the Jeſuits or *Parmentiers*, that it was practicable for *Bernarda* to ſend ſuch Meſſage, that the Admiral might know whether *Bernarda* had met with any Accident as to his Ship, or any other Obſtacle to his Proceeding, as he might aſſiſt him from thoſe Ships Companies then with the Admiral. How the Letter was conveyed is not expreſſed; probably by a Seaman with an *Indian* Guide (the Diſtance between the Admiral and *Bernarda*, at this Time, will be conſidered hereafter) who would uſe all poſſible Expedition both by Land and Water: Had the Advantage of very ſhort Nights. *De Fonte* would not proceed until he received this Account, though ready as ſoon as he received it. As *de Fonte* ſailed on the firſt of *July*, that Account muſt have come to his Hand the thirtieth of *June*.

The Ships being ſecure in a good Harbour, and the Command left with *Ronquillo*, the Admiral proceeds to the River *Parmentiers*, ſo named in Honour of Monſ. *Parmentiers*, whom he ſtiles his Comrade, and commends his Induſtry and Judgment in the Survey of ſuch River, and the Parts adjacent. From his being ſtiled his Comrade, he was in no Command, as he could not have a Commiſſion without having been bred in the Service, and a Native of *Spain*. Therefore being a Perſon immediately neceſſary for to have on this Occaſion, he is introduced under the Character of a Friend and Companion. Mr. *Gage* mentions, Chap. xv. of his new Survey of the *Weſt Indies*, one *Thomas Rocalono*, a *Frenchman*, a Prior of the Cloiſter of *Cemitlan*, who, with himſelf, was the only Stranger in that Country, by which he means in that Part where he was;

and it implies there being others in other Parts, which falſifies the Aſſertion that no *Frenchman* was ever admitted in *Peru*.

The Countries of *Quivira* and *Anian* were repreſented, at that Time, to be barren or deſolate; as is alſo evident from the Deſcription of the Inhabitants eating raw Fleſh, drinking Blood, and in all Reſpects ſuitable to the Character of the *Eſkemaux Indians*, who by Choice, not Neceſſity, make Uſe of ſuch Diet when out a hunting or travelling, which expreſſes thoſe Parts to be very inhoſpitable, and where the *Indians* only frequent at certain Seaſons, in Purſuit of the wild Game, and for fiſhing. And *Cibola* is repreſented as a Country which hath a Cultivation, where the *Indians* conſtantly live, and ſeem a different People from thoſe of *Quivira* and *Anian*. This is agreeable to the Accounts given at that Time, which is ſufficient to ſhew that the Jeſuits could not expect that they ſhould be able, or would undertake to paſs through ſuch a Country as *Quivira* and *Anian* in Purſuit of their Diſcoveries to Northward; therefore muſt have taken ſome Opportunity of being conveyed there, which could only be by ſome Perſons who had been on theſe Coaſts, and had, through Neceſſity, Intereſt, or Curioſity, paſſed up theſe Waters, and ſurveyed the adjacent Country in Purſuit of ſomething which might turn out to their private Emolument: Nor were ſuch Attempts unprecedented, even on our Parts, though the Hazards were much greater. The private Trade carried on by the People from *Boſton*, in *Hudſon*'s Bay, before there was a Grant to the Company; which Trading might not have come to the Knowledge of the People in *England*, or been known to the Publick for a Series of Years, had it not been for an Accident which happened to Captain *Gillam*, who thereupon made a Diſcovery of this Trade. Nor is there the leaſt Improbability but that *Parmentiers* had, on ſome Occaſion, introduced himſelf into theſe Parts, had invited the Jeſuits to a Miſſion there, who, on other Miſſions, had undertaken what hath been much more hazardous, and ſucceeded. There were ſufficient Motives for that Undertaking; the Northern Bounds were then unknown, ſo that they could not affirm *America* to be Continent, nor certainly to be an Iſland diſtinguiſhed from the old World. This is the Account Mr. *Gage* gives us, Chap. xiii. and mentioning that he will not write, as many do, by Relation and Hearſay, but by more ſure Intelligence, Inſight and Experience. He ſays *Quivira* is ſeated on the

moſt Weſtern Part of *America*, juſt over againſt *Tartary*; from whence, being not much diſtant, ſome ſuppoſe that the Inhabitants came into this new World. The Weſt Side of *America*, if it be not Continent with *Tartary*, it yet disjoined by a ſmall Streight. Here then was a ſufficient Matter to encourage a Miſſion of this Sort, and to keep a Progreſs to the Eaſtward, or in *America*, with the Diſcoveries that were going on by the Miſſionars ſent to *Japan*; and there was a Propriety in this being done, as the Coaſts of both were ſuppoſed to be at no great Diſtance from each other: And this was expreſly the Purpoſe of their Miſſion, as it is ſaid they had been to Latitude 66, and made curious Obſervations, on which Account they were with *Bernarda*. As *Parmentiers* went to the Eaſtward with *de Fonte*, who muſt have had a different Motive from them for coming into thoſe Parts, he muſt have had his own private Emolument in view, his better Succeſs in which depended on his Secrecy, as he thereby prevented others from interfering; which Conſideration would prevail with him, as with all Traders, ſuperior to any Satisfaction the Publick might have from his Informations; and as Trade would be carried on moſt ſucceſsfully where the Inhabitants were more numerous, we find he had found his Way to Eaſtward, apparently the moſt populous, as the Jeſuits had gone to the Northward and Weſtward, principally as moſt conſiſtent with their Plan; tho' *Conaſſet* was where the Jeſuits had been firſt introduced, where their courteous Behaviour and Management of the Natives, would be of Advantage to *Parmentiers*. In ſearching for the moſt popular and inhabited Part of the Country, he would become acquainted with the Geography of thoſe Parts neceſſarily, Depths of Water, Shoals, Tides, which his own Preſervation, and the better conducting of himſelf would naturally lead him to obſerve; but there might be a more particular Reaſon for his Obſervation of the River *Parmentiers*, and of all the Parts about it; and therefore he had been ſo exact as to the Falls, which were the Obſtruction of the Ship Navigation through to the Eaſtern Sea, that lay beyond the Streights of *Ronquillo*, for his own private Advantage; by opening a new and extenſive Trade, he would have greatly promoted it if he had found this Communication practicable for Ships of Burthen.

The People that Captain *Tchirikow* met with on the Coaſt is no Objection to the Character given of thoſe within Land in this Letter, as it is

is from Experience known that the *Eſkemaux*, who are along the Coaſt of the *Labrador*, are cruel and thieviſh; but that *Indians* of a different Diſpoſition live within Land.

As to *Parmentiers* being the general Interpreter for all, he is not ſaid to be ſo. He would, for the Benefit it would be to him in his Trade, endeavour to learn the Language, and would of courſe acquire ſomething of it unavoidably, as he frequented amongſt the *Indians:* And it muſt be obſerved, though there are many different Nations, and there is a Difference in Dialect, yet there is a Language which all thoſe Nations will underſtand, called the Council Language.

That Voyages had been made to theſe Parts more than once is evident, as the Jeſuits ſtaid there two Years, therefore did not return with the ſame Opportunity by which they came there, but another; and it is probable that there had been a Voyage prior to that, which had encouraged them to undertake it.

In what Manner *de Fonte* proceeded, the Boats and Number of Perſons he had with him, the Tranſlator hath omitted. It is mentioned, that *de Fonte* ſailed from the reſt of his Ships; the River *Parmentiers* hath Falls of thirty-two Feet perpendicular Height from its Source to where it iſſues into Lake *de Fonte*; ſo again, on the South Side Lake *Belle* on board our Ships; and had it been with his Ship, his Inference that there was no North-weſt Paſſage would have been unjuſt, as his meeting with this Ship the Veſſel from *Boſton*, would have effectually proved the contrary.

'We paſſed eight Falls, in all 32 Foot, perpendicular from its Source 'out of Lake *Belle*; it falls into the large Lake I named Lake *de Fonte*, 'at which Place we arrived the 6th of *July*. This Lake is 160 Leagues 'long, and 60 broad; the Length is Eaſt North Eaſt, and Weſt South 'Weſt, to twenty or thirty, in ſome Places ſixty Fathom deep; the 'Lake abounds with excellent Cod and Ling, very large and well fed; 'there are ſeveral very large Iſlands, and ten ſmall ones; they are co-'vered with ſhrubby Woods; the Moſs grows ſix or ſeven Foot long, 'with which the Mooſe, a very large Sort of Deer, are fat with in the

'Winter,

'Winter, and other leſſer Deer, as Fallow, *&c.* There are Abundance 'of wild Cherries, Strawberries, Hurtleberries, and wild Currants; and 'alſo of wild Fowls, Heath Cocks and Hens; likewiſe Partridges and 'Turkeys; and Sea Fowl in great Plenty. On the South Side the Lake 'is a very large fruitful Iſland, had a great many Inhabitants, and 'very excellent Timber, as Oaks, Aſhes, Elm and Fir Trees, very 'large and tall.'

We here again ſee the Form of the Letter, *de Fonte* expreſſing himſelf, as in the firſt Part of the Letter, *I named Parmentiers, my induſtrious*; and there are other Inſtances.

The River *Parmentiers*, which is the Communication by which the Waters of Lake *Belle* are conveyed into the Lake *de Fonte*, ſo named we may ſuppoſe not in Compliment to himſelf, which would be abſurd, but of his Family, as the Expreſſion is, *I named Lake de Fonte*, though it almoſt deſerves the Name of a Mediterranean Sea; but from having a ſuperior Water near it, with which it communicated, *de Fonte* calls it a Lake. It is not a caſual naming of Places, or Waters, as *Hudſon*'s Bay, given to that great Mediterranean Sea, and continued, but the Names of the Waters he paſſed through, would be given with Exactneſs and Propriety. In the Lake *de Fonte* there was a great Depth of Water, alſo Banks, as there is ſaid to be in ſome Parts twenty or thirty Fathom Water, as is alſo evident from the Cod and Ling there, and which inſtance it to be a Salt Water Lake. It was the Seaſon when theſe Fiſh come to the Northward to ſpawn. The ſhrubby Wood on the Iſlands, the Moſs for the Subſiſtence of the Deer hanging on the Trees, the wild Cherries and other Fruits ripening at that Seaſon of the Year, are all correſponding Tokens of his being advanced to the North-eaſt Part of *America*, is agreeable in all the above Reſpects to the Country Northward and Weſtward in *Canada*, about the River *St. Lawrence*, to the interior Parts of the Country of *Labrador*, in Lat. 56; but as you proceed further to Northward, the high rocky Mountains, which in this Part are only confined to the Coaſt, then extend more inland, increaſe in their Height, and in Lat. 59° and 60°, the whole Country, as far as *Baffin*'s Bay, ſeems to conſiſt only of Ridges of barren Mountains, interſperſed with Waters; and the Progreſs of the Productions, as to Trees

and

and Plants, gradually decreaſes from a more flouriſhing to an inferior Sort, as you proceed to Northward; in Lat. 59, on the Weſtern Side of *Hudſon*'s Bay to the Northward of *Seal* River, there is no Wood, only Graſs and a ſmall Shrub of about a Foot in Heighth, which continues, as far as it is known to Weſtward; and a thin Soil, with a hard rocky Stone juſt below the Surface, and very frequently there are large Ponds of ſtanding Water.

De Fonte ſeems to have made a Stop at the Iſland at the South of Lake *de Fonte*, to take Refreſhment, and make Inquiry as to the *Boſton* Ship, it being out of his Courſe, or on any other Account to go there.

'The 14th of *July* we ſailed out of the Eaſt North-eaſt End of the 'Lake *de Fonte*, and paſſed a Lake I named the *Eſtricho de Ronquillo*, 'thirty-four Leagues long, two or three Leagues broad, twenty, twenty-'ſix and twenty-eight Fathom of Water; we paſſed this Streight in ten 'Hours, having a ſtout Gale of Wind, and a whole Ebb. As we ſailed 'more Eaſterly the Country grew very ſenſibly worſe.'

What follows, 'as it is in the North and South Parts of *America*,' appears to me an additional Comment.

De Fonte mentions, as he went more Eaſterly the Country grew worſe; from which it may be ſuppoſed he found the Alteration to begin when he was come to the Eaſtern Part of the Lake, and more ſo, as he paſſed the Streights of *Ronquillo*.

Where the Streight of *Ronquillo* terminated *de Fonte* makes no mention; gives us no Account of the Soundings or Tides; but his Silence here, and the preceding Circumſtances, ſufficiently prove that he thought himſelf then in ſome Branch of the *Atlantick Ocean*. And it is to be obſerved there is the ſame affected Silence here as to the Part he was come into, as when he had left the Weſtern Ocean and entered the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea* to paſs up to *Los Reys*.

'The 17th we came to an *Indian* Town, and the *Indians* told our In-'terpreter Monſ. *Parmentiers*, that a little Way from us lay a great Ship, 'where there never had been one before.'

The

The *Indian* telling the Interpreter *Parmentiers*, which expreſſes a Kind of Acquaintance made between them, and *de Fonte*'s paſſing out of the Lake into the Sea, coming to a Town, and *Parmentiers* knowing the Language, is an Evidence of *Parmentiers*' having been there before. And we may ſuppoſe, that from the Time they left the River *Parmentiers*, *de Fonte* had been on the Inquiry, it being now Time to expect the People from *Boſton*; and what the *Indian* told him was in purſuance of ſuch Inquiry.

'We ſailed to them, and found only one Man advanced in Years, 'and a Youth; the Man was the greateſt Man in the Mechanical Parts 'of the Mathematicks, I had ever met with; my ſecond Mate was an '*Engliſhman*, an excellent Seaman, as was my Gunner, who had been 'taken Priſoners at *Campechy*, as well as the Maſter's Son; they told me 'the Ship was of *New England*, from a Town called *Boſton*. The Owner 'and the whole Ship's Company came on board the thirtieth; and the 'Navigator of the Ship, Captain *Shapley*, told me, his Owner was a fine 'Gentleman, and *Major General* of the largeſt Colony in *New England*, 'called the *Maltechuſets*; ſo I received him like a Gentleman, and told 'him my Commiſſion was to make a Prize of any People ſeeking a 'North-weſt or Weſt Paſſage into the *South Sea*; but I would look on 'them as Merchants trading with the Natives for Bevers, Otters and 'other Furs and Skins, and ſo for a ſmall Preſent of Proviſions I had 'no need on, I gave him my Diamond Ring, which coſt me twelve 'Hundred Pieces of Eight (which the modeſt Gentleman received with 'difficulty) and having given the brave Navigator *Captain Shapley*, for 'his fine Charts and Journals, a Thouſand Pieces of Eight, and the 'Owner of the Ship, *Seimor Gibbons*, a quarter Caſk of good *Peruan* 'Wine, and the ten Seamen, each twenty Pieces of Eight, the ſixth of '*Auguſt*, with as much Wind as we could fly before and a Current, we 'arrived at the firſt Fall of the River *Parmentiers*.'

De Fonte makes no Delay, but immediately proceeds as the Caſe required; finds an old Man aboard, the Man (as being a great Mechanick might be very uſeful on ſuch an Expedition) and a Youth, might venture to ſtay, their Age would plead as to any Severity that might be intended by *de Fonte*; and through the Fear of which Severity the others

retired

retired into the Woods, where they could manage without being ſenſible of thoſe Difficulties which *Europeans* apprehend. To leave the Ship without any one aboard, *de Fonte* could of Courſe have taken her as being deſerted; and by their Retirement into the Woods, his Purſuit of them there would have alarmed the *Indians*, and more eſpecially if he had attempted any Severity, it might have been fatal to him and his Company, from the Reſiſtance they might have met with, not only from the *Boſton* People, but the *Indians* aſſiſting them, as they would have conſidered it as an Inſult, an Exerciſe of Power which they would apprehend he had no Right to uſe in thoſe Parts, as to a People who were trading with them, and been the Occaſion that the *Spaniards* would have been no more received as Friends in thoſe Parts.

De Fonte had particularly provided himſelf with ſome *Engliſhmen*, who, by a friendly Converſe with the People from *Boſton*, might endeavour to learn their Secrets, and prepare them the better by what they would be inſtructed to tell them to come to a Compliance with the Admiral's Intentions. The Reſult of this Affair *de Fonte* only mentions; but they would not have ſtaid away ſo long, would have returned ſooner aboard, had they only left the Ship on Account of Trade. Trade was only a ſecondary Object, the Diſcovery was the principal, and they would not have ſtaid in one Place, at this Seaſon, had they not been neceſſitated through a Fear of *de Fonte* ſo to do. It may be ſuppoſed the *Engliſhmen* who were with *de Fonte*, two of whom were from *Campechy*, and the other become Catholick, as he was married to the Maſter's Daughter, they would not act either with much Sincerity or Truth as to their own Countrymen, but managed with the old Man to bring the Owner, Navigator, and reſt of the Crew aboard.

On their return the Navigator of the Ship was the firſt who waited on the Admiral, and he calls him Captain *Shapley*, his Name *Nicholas Shapley*, who was famous as a Navigator, for his Knowledge in the Mathematicks and other Branches of Science, that the common People ſuppoſed he dealt in the Magick Art, and had the Name given him of *Old Nick*, not by the People of *Boſton*, but by a Set of Libertines as they termed them, and who had ſeparated from the People of *Boſton*, and gone to live by themſelves at *Piſcatua*, where he was ſettled at a

Place called *Kittery*, in the Province of *Main*; the Name of *Kittery* given by his Brother *Alexander Shapley*, to a Tract of Land he had ſettled on there; and they write the Name *Shapley* exactly in the Manner in which it is wrote in the Letter. The Brother *Alexander* was a Cotemporary at *Oxford* with Captain *James*, who went on Diſcovery, and his Acquaintance. The Deſcendants of *Alexander*, a genteel People, were not many Years ſince living at *Kittery*; but *Nicholas Shapley* retired to *New London*, where he had a Son that was living in the Year one Thouſand ſeven Hundred and fifty-two, a Fiſherman. The Family at *Kittery* were very ſhy as to giving any Information as to what they knew in this Affair, upon an Application by the Author of theſe Obſervations, or looking into *Alexander*'s Papers, as an officious Perſon had got beforehand, and diſcouraged them from giving any Gratification of this Sort, under Pretence, if their Papers were ſeen, it might give ſome Inſight into a Lawſuit depending between the Branches of the Family, or expected to be commenced; and that there was a great Reward for the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, which, if the Account was attained from them they would be intitled to a Part, which by this Means they would be deprived of. Jealouſies of this Kind raiſed by a pretended, at leaſt an ignorant Friend, againſt the Application of a Stranger, who aſſured them he was ſuperior to any Trick of that Sort, and would give them any Satisfaction in his Power as they ſhould propoſe, occaſioned a Diſappointment. The Son of Captain *Nicholas*, upon an Application made by the Author likewiſe, had nothing but his Father's Sea Cheſt, in which there were once a great many Papers, and which his Mother, the Wife of Captain *Nicholas*, made a great Account of; but the Son being an illiterate Man, had made Uſe of them in the Family as waſte Paper. I have mentioned him as illiterate, but he was a well meaning Man, and he had heard his Mother talk ſomething about ſuch an Affair; but I ſhall not lay a Streſs upon the Account he gave, as he may be ſuppoſed prompted by the earneſt Manner of the Inquiry to give grateful Anſwers, in Expectation of a Reward. The Number of Settlers in all *Piſcatua*, the Province of *Main* included, did not at that Time exceed four Hundred People, but is now become a well ſettled Country; yet there was amongſt the antient People about *Kittery*, a Tradition of Captain *Nicholas* having been on ſuch a Voyage, and as to which, on proper Application to Perſons who have Influence, and will make due Inquiry, it appears to me the Publick will

will receive a farther Satisfaction than they may at preſent expect. A conſiderable Merchant who lived at *Falmouth* in *Piſcatua*, a Man of Character, no Way biaſſed for or againſt a North-weſt Paſſage, but as he is ſince dead, I may take the Liberty to ſay, married a Daughter of his late Excellency Governor *Weymouth*, mentioned an Anecdote reſpecting his Father, who was a very antient Man: That when the Diſpute was between the late Governor *Dobbs* and Captain *Middleton*, he ſaid, Why do they make ſuch a Fuzz about this Affair, our *Old Nick* (meaning Captain *Shapley*) was through there? And this antient Gentleman had been an Intimate of Captain *Shapley*'s.

Early in the Year before this Voyage Major General *Gibbons* went with others over to *Piſcatua*, to have a Conference about Church Matters; and Mr. *Alexander Shapley* was one on the Part of the Settlers in *Piſcatua*, and who had but returned from *England* the Fall before. At this Meeting, probably, they fixed on the Time and Manner of executing the Deſign, which they had before concerted. This whole Affair was concerted in an obſcure Part, the Affair not known to the People of *Boſton*, as it was more to the Purpoſe of thoſe who undertook it to keep it a Secret; and probably Major *Gibbons* was more inclined it ſhould be ſo, as he had before met with two Diſappointments. The Characters of the Perſons were ſuch, as by whom it is very reaſonable to ſuppoſe ſuch an Expedition might be undertaken. Mr. *Alexander Shapley* was a Merchant, a lively, active, enterpriſing Man; ſufficient to this Purpoſe hath been ſaid of his Brother: And we may add to the Character of Major General *Gibbons*, it was ſaid of him, that he was much of a Gentleman, a brave, ſocial and friendly Man, had the latter End of the Year 1639 a Commiſſion to be Captain of the Fort, was one of the Council, alſo concerned in Church Matters, as appears from Records. But during the Time that this Voyage was making, as that worthy Paſtor of *Boſton* and great Antiquarian Mr. *Prince*, who, from a generous Diſpoſition to get at the Truth, uſed extraordinary Induſtry in this Affair, by ſearching the Records in the old Church there in the Year 1752, could not find his Hand ſet to any Thing, or any Matters relating to Major General *Gibbons*, tho' he found Papers ſigned by him frequently before, and other Tranſactions in which he is mentioned to be concerned, alſo after the Time of this Voyage, and the only Objection that he could find was,

that the Wife of Major General *Gibbons* muſt have had a ſeven Months Child, if he went on ſuch Voyage, as it was a Cuſtom in the Church of *Boſton*, at that Time, that the Child ſhould be brought to be baptized the *Sunday* after it was born; and by the Regiſter it appears that this was the Caſe, according to the Time that it muſt be ſuppoſed he returned.

The Name was *Edward Gibbons*; and *Seimor* is a Miſtake of the Tranſlator, not obſerving that as *de Fonte* reſpectfully ſtiles *Shapley* Captain, he would not mention the Owner by his Chriſtian Name only, a fine Gentleman and a Major General, but ſtiles him agreeable thereto after the *Spaniſh* Manner *Sennor*; and this Miſtake of the Tranſlator, as to the Name, and not obſerving that the *Major General* and the Owner were one and the ſame Perſon, ſhews that the Tranſlator and Editors knew nothing of the Perſons mentioned.

What is ſaid of the largeſt Colony in *New England*, called the *Maltechuſets*: The Dominions of *New England* conſiſted, at that Time, of the Colonies of *Plymouth*, *Maſſachuſets*, and *Connecticut*, of which *Maſſachuſets* was the largeſt, as *New Hampſhire*, *Piſcatua*, and the Province of *Main*, were under its Juriſdiction: And it is a little remarkable that the Admiral ſhould call it the *Maltechuſets*; he apprehended it a Miſtake, though ſo exact as to the Names *Shapley* and *Gibbons*; ſeems to have given the Alteration agreeable to his own Ideas, and that it muſt have Reference to *Malta*.

The old Man told them the Ship was of *New England*, from the Town called *Boſton*, which was the only Place where they could fit out properly or conveniently, the Part where *Shapley* lived conſiſting only of a few ſcattered Houſes, and as it was very frequent from *Boſton* to make Voyages to the Northward, their true Deſign for further Diſcoveries might remain a Secret to all but themſelves.

De Fonte's Addreſs to *Gibbons* as the Owner, repreſented ſo on this Occaſion to ſerve the Purpoſe, though the Veſſel ſeems to have been *Alexander Shapley*'s, implies that he underſtood, or took the Advantage on finding they had been trading with the *Indians*, that they had two Purpoſes in their Undertaking, to diſcover a Paſſage, and to trade. As to the firſt, *de Fonte* tells him he had an Order to make a *Prize of any People*

People ſeeking a Weſt or North-weſt Paſſage, ſpeaking in general Terms, not of them only, ſo concealing the Advice he had received as to their particular undertaking of this Diſcovery; nor could it be peculiarly underſtood as to the Subjects of *England*, for the *Danes* alſo, to their immortal Honour, had before attempted the ſame Diſcovery; and in Conſequence let him know that the Part he was in was of the Dominions of the Crown of *Spain*, as his Commiſſion could be of no Force beyond the Extent of that Dominion. *De Fonte*'s Addreſs likewiſe implied, that as he would conſider them only as Traders, that he would not make Priſoners of them on that Account; but expected after this Adventure that others would learn to keep nearer home, for Fear of falling into a like Accident, and meeting not with the ſame favourable Treatment. Nevertheleſs he takes effectual Meaſures to embarraſs them on their Return, and obliges them to ſtay no longer in thoſe Parts, as he takes from them what *de Fonte* calls a ſmall Preſent of Proviſions, which he had no Need on, but he knew they might, and as to which, the Affair of Proviſions, he gave ſuch an Attention to, through the Courſe of his Voyage; and though ſmall what he accepted in reſpect to the Subſiſtance of thoſe he had with him, yet as the Sequel will ſhew, was afterwards the Occaſion of infinite Diſtreſs to the *Boſton* People. The Gift in return, which is pompouſly mentioned at twelve Hundred Pieces of Eight, when we conſider the Price Things bore of this Sort where he purchaſed it, in *Peru*, as he eſtimates by Pieces of Eight, the Manner of Valuation in thoſe Parts, would not be to *Gibbons* a Hundred Pounds Sterling; and the Preſent to the Seamen muſt be conſidered as in lieu of theſe Proviſions; and by this Means of mutual Preſents countenanced what was abſolutely extorted by Force, as was the Caſe with *Shapley*, as to his Charts and Journals, which he would not have parted with, but conſtrained through Fear; and by his *Engliſh* Seamen *de Fonte* could let them know that the Proviſions, Charts, and Journals would be acceptable. He executed his Deſign in this Manner, that if the *Boſton* People returned there could be no proper Foundation for the Court of *England* to take Umbrage at his Proceeding.

The Generoſity of *de Fonte* ſo exceeding what their Preſent and the Charts and Journals could be worth, would be conſidered as to make them ſome Satisfaction for their Diſappointment; for the Fears they had

been

been put into, and their being detained there; the Gift of Wine, might be from a Reſpect to *Major General Gibbons*, as an Officer, whom *de Fonte* ſtiles modeſt, tho' he might perceive it to be the Effect of his Uneaſineſs on being thus intercepted. In all other Reſpects, what he gave was a Debt which the Crown of *Spain* would pay, would be conſidered as Money advanced in their Service; a Sum of no Conſideration with them, as he had met with theſe People, procured their Charts by which they got into the Secret, by what Way they had advanced ſo far, and probably very particular Charts and Journals of the other Voyagers whom *Gibbons* was acquainted with; and he would endeavour to be furniſhed with all Materials which he could probably procure before that he ſet out. It would be greatly commended by the Court of *Spain* the artful Management of *de Fonte* in diſtreſſing theſe People, and not with a ſeeming Intention, and giving an abſolute Diſcouragement to other Adventurers, who would be afraid of falling into the *Spaniards* Hands, whom it would be ſuppoſed conſtantly frequented thoſe Parts.

De Fonte only mentions the Iſſue of this Affair, what would be immediately neceſſary for the Court to know; he mentions no intervening Circumſtances, nor what Time there was between their Examination and the Preſents, whether he or they ſailed firſt, but it muſt be ſuppoſed they were more than a Day together, and that *de Fonte* would ſee them out of thoſe Parts, as, if they had ſtaid longer, they might probably have ſupplied themſelves well with Proviſions, and proceeded further; but as they were circumſtanced, they would be put under a Neceſſity to ſet out for home, would be glad to leave him the firſt Opportunity; and as *de Fonte* ſeems to be waiting for a Wind, which he had the ſixth of *Auguſt*, and it had in the interim been fair for the *Boſton* People, they were certainly gone before that *de Fonte* ſet out on his Return.

In the Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory of *New England*, by the Reverend *Cotton Mather*, publiſhed at *London* in 1702, in Folio, in his Account of wonderful Sea Deliverances, Book the ſixth, is *The wonderful Story of Major Gibbons.*

‘ Among remarkable *Sea Deliverances*, no leſs than three ſeveral
‘ Writers have publiſhed that wherein Major *Edward Gibbons* was con-

‘ cerned. A Veſſel bound from *Boſton* to ſome other Parts of *Ame-*
‘ *rica*, was, through the Continuance of contrary Winds, kept ſo
‘ long at Sea, that the People aboard were in extreme ſtraits for Want
‘ of Proviſion, and ſeeing that nothing here below could afford them
‘ any Relief, they looked upwards unto Heaven, in humble and fervent
‘ Supplications. The Winds continuing ſtill as they were, one of the
‘ Company made a ſorrowful Motion that they ſhould, by a *Lot*, ſingle
‘ out *One* to die, and by Death to ſatisfy the ravenous Hunger of the
‘ reſt. After many a doleful and fearful Debate upon this Motion, they
‘ came to a Reſult, that *it muſt be done!* The *Lot* is caſt; one of the
‘ Company is taken; but where is the Executioner that ſhall do the ter-
‘ rible Office upon a poor Innocent? It is a Death now to think who
‘ ſhall act this bloody Part in the Tragedy: But before they fall upon
‘ this involuntary and unnatural Execution, they once more went unto
‘ their zealous *Prayers*; and, behold, while they were calling upon God,
‘ he anſwered them, for there leaped a mighty Fiſh into their Boat,
‘ which, to their double Joy, not only quieted their outrageous Hun-
‘ ger, but alſo gave them ſome Token of a further Deliverance: How-
‘ ever, the Fiſh is quickly eaten; the horrible *Famine* returns, the hor-
‘ rible Diſtreſs is renewed; a black Deſpair again ſeizes their Spirits:
‘ For another Morſel they come to a ſecond *Lot*, which fell upon ano-
‘ ther Perſon; but ſtill they cannot find an Executioner: They once
‘ again fall to their importunate Prayers; and, behold, a ſecond An-
‘ ſwer from above; a great Bird lights, and fixes itſelf on the Maſt;
‘ one of the Men ſpies it, and there it ſtands until he took it by the
‘ Wing with his Hand. This was a ſecond *Life from the Dead.* This
‘ Fowl, with the Omen of a further Deliverance in it, was a ſweet Feaſt
‘ unto them. Still their Diſappointments follow them; they can ſee
‘ no Land; they know not where they are: Irreſiſtable Hunger once
‘ more pinches them: They have no Hope to be ſaved but by *a third*
‘ *Miracle*: They return to another *Lot*; but before they go to the
‘ Heart-breaking Taſk of ſlaying the Perſon under *Deſignation*, they re-
‘ peat their Addreſſes unto the God of Heaven, their former *Friend in*
‘ *Adverſity*; and now they look and look again, but there is nothing:
‘ Their Devotions are concluded, and nothing appears; yet they hoped,
‘ yet they ſtaid, yet they lingered: At laſt one of them ſpies a Ship,
‘ which put a new Hope and Life into them all: They bear up with

‘ their

'their Ship; they man their Long-boat; they go to board the Veſſel,
'and are admitted. It proves a *French* Pyrate: Major *Gibbons* Petitions
'for a little Bread, and offers all for it; but the Commander was one
'who had formerly received conſiderable Kindneſſes of Major *Gibbons*
'at *Boſton*, and now replied chearfully, Major *Gibbons*, not an Hair of
'you, or your Company, ſhall *periſh if it lies in my Power to* preſerve
'*you*. Accordingly he ſupplied their Neceſſities, and they made a com-
'fortable End of their Voyage.'

There are nine other Accounts, in each of which the Places the Perſons were bound to are particularly mentioned. In this Account (the Deſign being only to ſhew the wonderful Deliverance of *Gibbons*) Dr. *Mather* could not mention the Place to which the Voyage had been made in any other Manner, than *to ſome other Parts of America*, which hath an exact Correſpondence with the Voyage in which Major *Gibbons* was intercepted by *de Fonte*; for that Voyage was properly to ſeveral Parts, not being to one particular Part of *America*; which Parts were, at that Time, nameleſs. It is ſaid further, that their Misfortune was occaſioned by contrary Winds. *De Fonte* had a fair Wind from the ſixth of *Auguſt* to the fifth of *September*, and for a longer Time, ſo contrary to the *Boſton* Ship; afterwards they had the Wind again contrary, when they came into the Ocean, being North-weſt or to Weſtward of it, as they could ſee no Land; the Land expected to be ſeen may be ſuppoſed the Land of *Newfoundland*, or they were to Eaſtward and Southward of the Gulph of *St. Lawrence:* And which Account of the Weather is agreeable to the Time of the Year that they were there, the latter End of *September*, or Beginning of *October*, being the Equinoctial Gales. Alſo as to the Fiſh which muſt have been a Sturgeon, which Fiſh frequently jump into Boats; and ſhews, as the Boat was out, that they had then moderate Weather, but contrary; though a hard Gale ſucceeded, as one of the Birds of Paſſage, which are alſo then going to Southward, was blown off the Coaſt and tired, reſted on the Maſt. Far be it from me to reckon theſe as mere Accidents, and not the Aſſiſtances of the Almighty, but a Relief which the Almighty ſent them by Contingencies which are natural: And as to the Ship, which was a *French* Pirate, ſhe had probably come with a freſh Wind out of the Gulph of *St. Lawrence*, and ſtanding to Eaſtward of *Sables* to clear that Iſland and *Nautuchet*,

for

for which ſhe had a fair Wind; and it is ſaid the Commander had an Acquaintance with Major *Gibbons*, and received Favours from him at *Boſton*; but I muſt add an Anecdote, to ſhew that there might alſo be another Reaſon aſſigned, which would not be ſuitable to be publiſhed with that Account; *Alexander Shapley* had uſed to hold a Correſpondence with theſe Kind of Gentry, as is evident from a ſevere Cenſure on him on that Account, recorded in the Council Book at *Boſton*. It was a *Ship* that Major *Gibbons* was in when intercepted by *de Fonte*; and this Account alſo mentions a Ship. After the Death of *Major Gibbons*, his Family, according to the Account of a very antient Gentlewoman at *Boſton*, removed to *Bermuda*; which Lady, who was near ninety Years of Age, had ſome traditional Account of the *Major* having been ſuch a Voyage to diſcover a new Way to the *Eaſt Indies*, and ſuffered much from the Snow and Ice, went through a great many Hardſhips, and, ſhe ſaid, ſhe thought it was from *Boſton* that he ſet out. The Perſons diſcovered by Monſ. *Groſeliers*, at what he calls an *Engliſh* Settlement, near Port *Nelſon*, as it is now termed, were *Benjamin* the Son of Captain *Zachary Gillam*, and ſome others, from *Boſton*, who were the ſame Year taken to *Canada*, whoſe Journal of that Voyage the Author hath ſeen, and this Circumſtance is mentioned in it, which Perſons have been miſtaken for Major *Gibbons* and his Company.

'We arrived at the River *Parmentiers* the 11th of *Auguſt* 86 Leagues; 'and was on the South Side Lake *Belle* on board our Ships the 16th of '*Auguſt*, before the fine Town *Conoſſet*, where we found all Things well, 'and the honeſt Natives of *Conoſſet* had, in our Abſence, treated our 'People with great Humanity, and Capt. *de Ronquillo* anſwered their 'Civility and Juſtice.'

We have been before told, that the Admiral went ſixty Leagues up *Los Reyes*, which I take to be the whole Diſtance between the Entrance of *Los Reyes* to *Conoſſet* in Lake *Belle*; and if we tranſpoſe the above Words, 'arrived at *Parmentiers* the eleventh of *Auguſt*, and was on the 'South Side Lake *Belle* eighty-ſix Leagues on board our Ships the ſix-'teenth of *Auguſt*,' then we have the Diſtances reſpecting every Part of *de Fonte*'s Courſe thro' Land, from *Los Reyes* to *Conoſſet* ſixty Leagues, from *Conoſſet* to Lake *de Fonte eighty-ſix Leagues*, from the Entrance of Lake

de Fonte to the Streight of *Ronquillo* one Hundred and ſixty Leagues, from the Entrance of the Streight of *Ronquillo* to the Sea thirty-ſix Leagues. The Time that *de Fonte* was paſſing down the River of *Parmentiers*, and the Time he took to return, are equal, which is plainly owing to his being obliged to wait the Tides for getting over the Falls both Ways. The ſixth of *July* they had entered the Lake *de Fonte*, and by the fifteenth were through the Streights of *Ronquillo*, and at the *Indian* Town the ſeventeenth, ſo they were eleven Days from their Entrance into the Lake *de Fonte*; but in their return the ſame Way only five, favoured by a ſtrong Current which the Wind occaſioned to ſet into the Lake, and having as much Wind as they could fly before, and now came directly back; whereas in their Paſſage out they had made ſome Delays. The Courſe to *Conoſſet* being neareſt North-eaſt, I compute it to be in Lat. 56 Deg. Long. 118° 2′ from *London*. The Entrance of Lake *de Fonte* (ſuppoſing the Courſe of the River *Parmentiers* and from *Conoſſet* Eaſt North Eaſt) in Lat. 59° 4′. Long. 113°. The Entrance of the Streights of *Ronquillo* Eaſt North Eaſt, in Lat. 61 Deg. 8 Min. Long. 98 Deg. 48 Min. the Courſe through the Streights to enter the Sea North by Eaſt, ſuch Entrance to be in Lat. 62 Deg. 48 Min. Long. 98 Deg. 2 Min. which Courſe muſt be conſiſtent with *de Fonte*'s Account that a ſtrong Current ſet in, as by this Courſe ſuch Current muſt be accelerated, if it ſet to the Southward, by the Wind from the Northward, or if it was from the Southward, would be oppoſed in going to the Northward.

De Fonte proceeds to give an Account of the good Eſtate in which he found all Things on his Return; mentions the Honeſty and Humanity of the Natives, and the prudent Conduct of Captain *Ronquillo*, who anſwered their Civility and Juſtice. For they had, during the Time of *de Fonte*'s Abſence, procured, by dealing with the Natives, Store of good Proviſions to ſalt, Veniſon, Fiſh; alſo one Hundred Hogſheads of *Indian* Maiz; beſides the Service this would be of on their Return, procured purſuant to *de Fonte*'s Order, it employed the People, with the other neceſſary Work about the Ships after ſo long a Run, and kept them from brangling with the Natives. The Natives were alſo employed to their Intereſt, which preſerved them in good Humour; and a Juſtice in dealing preſerved their Friendſhip.

'The 20th of *Auguſt* an *Indian* brought me a Letter to *Conoſſet*, on 'the Lake *Belle*, from Captain *Bernarda*, dated the 11th of *Auguſt*, 'where he ſent me Word he was returned from his cold Expedition, 'and did aſſure me there was no Communication out of the *Spaniſh* or '*Atlantick* Sea, by *Davis* Streight; for the Natives had conducted one 'of his Seamen to the Head of *Davis* Streight, which terminated in a 'freſh Lake, of about 30 Mile in Circumference, in the 80th Degree 'of North Latitude; and that there was prodigious Mountains North 'of it, beſides the North-weſt from that Lake the Ice was ſo fixed, that 'from the Shore to 100 Fathom of Water, for ought he knew from the 'Creation; for Mankind knew little of the wonderful Works of God, 'eſpecially near the North and South Poles: He writ further, that he 'had ſailed from *Baſſet* Iſland North Eaſt, and Eaſt North Eaſt, and 'North Eaſt and by Eaſt, to the 79th Degree of Latitude, and the 'Land trended North, and the Ice reſted on the Land.'

The Orders *Bernarda* received were to ſail up a River North and North Eaſt, North and North Weſt, which River I ſuppoſe to have emptied itſelf near to *Los Reyes* into the South-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*; and it is not uncommon, in *America*, that two great Rivers ſhould have their Entrances contiguous to each other; and I ſuppoſe *Conabaſſet*, afterwards called *Baſſet*, to be in Lat. 58 Deg. 10 Min. to the Weſtward of *Los Reyes* in Long. 122 Deg. 9 Min. from *London*. The Courſe up the River *Haro* North 14 Deg. Weſt; and as *Conoſſet* is laid down in Lat. 56 Deg. Long. 118 Deg. 2 Min. the Diſtance from *Baſſet* to *Conoſſet* is one Hundred and ſeventy-ſeven Miles; the Courſe North 46 Deg. Weſt. The Letter by the firſt Meſſenger was dated the 27th of *June*, and is received the fourth Day, as he could not come a direct Courſe, we may ſuppoſe he travelled fifty Miles a Day, which is an extraordinary Allowance, the greateſt Part by Water, and Light moſt of the Night. We know he would go Part by Water in Lake *Belle*, and Lake *Belle* iſſuing its Waters both by *Los Reyes* and the River *Parmentiers*, muſt receive ſome conſiderable Influx of Waters by which it is formed, as well as to give a conſtant Supply of the Waters that iſſue from it, and which muſt be principally or only from the Northward, for it cannot be ſuppoſed to receive its Waters from the Southward, and diſcharge them there again, and which the Meſſenger

would make Uſe of as ſoon as poſſible, and come down Stream. The ſecond Meſſenger, who is expreſly mentioned to be an *Indian*, is nine Days a coming. But *Bernarda* mentions nothing as to his Ship or People in this Account, only ſays he is returned from his cold Expedition, therefore probably he ſent away the *Indian* as ſoon as he could after he entered the River, which ran into the *Tartarian* Sea, in Lat. 61. If this was the Caſe, we may ſuppoſe that the Waters which came into the Lake *Belle* head a great Way up in the Country.

Bernarda had Directions, after he left Lake *Valaſco*, to ſail one Hundred and forty Leagues Weſt, and then four Hundred and thirty Leagues North Eaſt by Eaſt to ſeventy-ſeven Degrees of Latitude. *Bernarda*, in his Letter of the 27th of *June* obſerves, there was a River eighty Leagues in Length, not comprehended in his Inſtructions or Orders, and emptied itſelf in the *Tartarian* Sea; and ſays, in his Letter of the 11th of *Auguſt*, that he ſailed from the Iſland *Baſſet* North-eaſt; with that Courſe, when he entered the *Tartarian* Sea, in Latitude 61, his Longitude would be 116 Deg. he then begins the Courſe *de Fonte* directed him, one Hundred and forty Leagues Eaſt North Eaſt; and he mentions on his Return he had ſteered that Courſe, keeping the Land aboard. So that *Weſt* and the Land trending *North Eaſt*, are Miſtakes in the Publication in *April*; but the mentioning how the Land trended, ſhews he was then entering the Sea; for to talk of Land, with reſpect to a River, is abſurd; and with the Courſe and Diſtance he ſteered would be in Lat. 63 Deg. 39 Min. and Long. 110 Deg. from *London:* Then he ſteers four Hundred and thirty-ſix Leagues North Eaſt and by Eaſt, and that brings him into Latitude 79 Deg. Long. 87 Deg. from *London.* But the Land trending North, and with Ice, which would be dangerous for the *Periagos*; and as the Land trended North, where he was appearing to him to be the neareſt Part he could attain to to go to the Head of *Davis* Streight; and as to the Diſtance over Land, and the Propriety of ſending a Meſſenger, the *Indians* would inform him; he ſends a Seaman over with an *Indian* to take a Survey of the Head of ſuch Streights, by us called *Baffin*'s Bay; which Name was not at that Time generally received. Which Seaman reports, that it terminated in the eightieth Degree of Latitude, in a Lake of about thirty Miles in Circumference, with prodigious Mountains North of it, which indeed formed that Lake,

or

or is a Sound, as that of Sir *James Lancaſter* and of *Alderman Jones*; and along the Shore, from the Lake North-weſt, the Ice was fixed, lying a great Diſtance out, which was very conſiſtent with there being no Inlets there, the Waters from which would have ſet it off. The Diſtance that the *Indian* and Sailor travelled would not exceed fifty Miles; and their mentioning the high Mountains to Northward imply, that they were in a more level Country where they were to take this View. Light all Night, the Snow off the Ground, and the Heighth of Summer there. It is no vain Conjecture to ſuppoſe that the Journey was practicable, even if performed all the Way by Land, and much eaſier, which is not the leaſt improbable, if they had an Opportunity of making Part of it by Water. *Bernarda* proceeding thus far in the *Tartarian* Sea, and entering in Latitude 61, is no Way contradictory to the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries; and by the *Tartarian* Sea is meant, the Sea which waſhes the Northern Coaſts of *Tartary*, and is ſuppoſed to extend round the Pole. Thoſe Diſcoveries are agreeable to the *Japaneſe* Map, as to the North-eaſt Parts of *Aſia*, and North-weſt Parts of *America*, brought over by *Kemper*, and in which Map there is expreſſed a Branch of the *Tartarian* Sea or Gulph, extending to the Southward, agreeable to this Account of *de Fonte*. Who calls it, with reſpect to *Aſia*, the North and Eaſt Part of the *Tartarian* Sea. Which compared with what *de Fonte* ſays, as to ſailing down the River to the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*, theſe Expreſſions caſt a mutual Light on each other, and that the *Archipelagus of Saint Lazarus* is a Gulph or Branch of the Sea, in the like Manner.

Places which are in one and the ſame Latitude, have not an equal Degree of Heat or Cold, or are equally fertile or barren, the Difference in theſe Reſpects chiefly conſiſts in their Situation. The Country of *Labrador*, which is to Eaſtward of *Hudſon*'s *Bay*, in Latitude 56, almoſt as high a Latitude as Port *Nelſon*, is a Country capable of being improved by Agriculture, and would ſupply all the Neceſſaries of Life, though intermixed with rugged and craggy Mountains. The Winter's not ſo ſevere as in the more Southern Parts of *Hudſon*'s *Bay*, as the Earth is not froze there, as it is in the ſame and lower Latitudes about that Bay: Alſo People have wintered in the *Labrador*, wearing only their uſual Cloathing: Therefore drawing a Parallel between Port *Nelſon* and *Conoſſet*, as to the Infertility of one, therefore the other being in the

ſame

ſame Latitude, could not produce Maiz to ſupply *Ronquillo*, is an Objection which hath no Foundation in it. The higher the Latitude the quicker is the Vegetation; and as *Indian Corn* or *Maiz* may be planted and gathered in three Months in lower Latitudes, it may be in an equal or leſs Time in higher Latitudes, in a good Soil. As to Port *Nelſon*, or *York Fort*, in *Hudſon*'s *Bay*, it is a low Country through which two large Rivers paſs, with the Bay in Front, and nothing is certainly known of the more inland Parts.

The phyſical Obſtacles that are produced againſt our giving Credit to this Account of *de Fonte*, from the Depth of the Falls at the Entrance of Lake *Belle* in the River *Parmentiers*, and from the River *Bernarda* paſſed up, are, from not underſtanding what is expreſſed by the Word Falls amongſt the *Americans*. They mean by a Fall wherever there is the leaſt Declivity of the Water; and the Fall of thirty-two Feet in the River *Parmentiers*, doth not mean a perpendicular Fall, as the Objector would have it underſtood, however ridiculous to ſuppoſe it, but eight gradual Deſcents, from the Beginning of which to the Extremity of the laſt there was a Difference of thirty-two Feet, and which became level or even at the Time of high Water.

What *Bernarda* ſays as to his cold Expedition, a Perſon uſed to the Climate of *Peru* might juſtly ſay ſo, of the Nights and Evenings and Mornings, at that Time of the Year, in the Latitude of ſeventy-nine, though temperate in Latitude fifty-ſix; and the whole Diſpoſition of the Country, the immenſe high Lands, their barren and deſert Aſpect, in Places their Summits covered with perpetual Snow, the Ice fixed to the Shores, Sheets of floating Ice in the Waters, the immenſe Iſlands, frequently ſeeing Whales, Sea-horſe, and a great Variety of the Inhabitants of thoſe Waters, which do not frequent the Southern Parts: The Whole a Scene ſo different from the Verdure and Delights of the Plains about *Lima*, and from the pleaſing Views that preſent themſelves on running along the Coaſts of *Peru*, *Bernarda* might well be affected with ſuch Scene as to expreſs himſelf, that Mankind knew little of the wonderful Works of God, eſpecially near the North and the South Poles. But he was not ſo ignorant as to report, that he ſaw Mountains of Ice on the Land, as well as in the Sea, though he might ſee them forming between

Points of Land, which jetted out into the Sea; and ſuch a Column of Ice would appear to him as ſomething very curious.

That theſe Parts were inhabited does not appear, for it was a Native of *Conibaſſet* that conducted the Seaman over the Land; and, at that Seaſon of the Year, the freſh Waters are thawed, no Snow on the low and level Lands, only on the extreme Summits of the Hills.

What is objected as to the Affability of the Inhabitants, that it is not conſiſtent with the Character of the *Indians*. Hoſpitality is the Characteriſtick of the *Indians* towards Strangers, until ſuch Time as they are prejudiced from ſome ill Treatment; and by the Account given by Sir *Francis Drake*, as to the *Indians* of *California*, and by the *Spaniards* who ſurveyed the Weſtern Coaſts, and the Iſlands lying off, they are repreſented in general as a kind, tractable People, and of a docile Temper.

As to the Diſpatch uſed by *Indians* in carrying Expreſſes, or their Runners as they term them, to carry Meſſages from one Nation to another, they will gird themſelves up with the Rhind of Trees, and keep going inceſſantly great Diſtances with a ſurpriſing Agility Night and Day, taking little either of Sleep or other Refreſhments, and keep a direct Courſe, and in the Night ſteer either by the Moon or Stars. Nor is there any Thing miraculous in theſe Journeys, which the Expreſſes performed, either as to Diſtance or as to Time, eſpecially as they paſſed through a Country abounding with Waters, and which Country being inhabited they could be ſupplied with Canoes, or they would find Floats at the Places where they uſually paſs the Waters.

Bernarda meeting *de Fonte* at a Port up the River *Rio los Reyes*, ſhews he had Perſons aboard who could direct him there, therefore muſt have been previouſly there; and they can be ſuppoſed to be no other than the Jeſuits, which is a further Proof of the Jeſuits having been before in theſe Parts. It was conſiſtent that the Ships ſhould join and return home together. From where *Bernarda* came to with his Ship was one Hundred and twenty Miles to *Conoſſet:* His Letter from thence was dated the 29th of *Auguſt*, and *de Fonte* ſailed the ſecond of *September:* It may be ſuppoſed the Letter came to Hand the firſt of *September*, which is

four

four Days, and the Expreſs had now all the Way by Water, and moſtly againſt Stream. *De Fonte*, to ſhew that he had preſerved the Affection of the Natives, mentions that he was accompanied with them; and they were of Aſſiſtance to him in the Pilotage down the River. *De Fonte* adds, he had ſent a Chart with the Letter, which is miſunderſtood, as if ſuch Chart had come to the Hands of the Editors; *which will make this much more demonſtrative*, were Words added by them; but it was uſual in all the Naval Expeditions to have Perſons aboard whom they called *Coſmographers*, to take Draughts of Places, and compoſe their Charts, and at that Time a very reputable Employment.

Miguel Venegas, a *Mexican* Jeſuit, publiſhed at *Madrid* in 1758, a Natural and Civil Hiſtory of *California*; a Tranſlation of which was publiſhed in *London* in 1759, in two Volumes; and Vol. i. P. 185, ſays, 'To this Æra (the laſt Voyage he mentions was in 1636) belongs the 'Contents of a Paper publiſhed at *London*, under the Title of the Nar- 'rative of *Bartholomew de Fuentes*, Commander in Chief of the Navy in 'New Spain and *Peru*, and Preſident of *Chili*, giving an Account of the 'moſt remarkable Tranſactions and Adventures in this Voyage, for the 'Diſcovery of a Paſſage from the *South Sea*, to that of the North in the 'Northern Hemiſphere, by Order of the Viceroy of *Peru* in the Year 1640. 'This Writing contains ſeveral Accounts relating to *California*; but 'without entering into long Diſputes, let it ſuffice to ſay, that little 'Credit is to be given to this Narrative. For the ſame Reaſon we have 'before omitted the Accounts of Voyages made from the *South Sea* to 'the North round beyond *California*, and thoſe of a contrary Direction, 'of which an Account is given by Captain *Seixas* and *Lobero*, in *Thea- 'tro Naval*, in *Spaniſh* and *French*; and particularly of that *Spaniard* 'who is ſuppoſed, in three Months, to have come from *Puerto de Na- 'vidad* and *Cabo Corientes* to *Liſbon*. Theſe and other Accounts diſ- 'perſed in different Books, we deſignedly omit, as they want the neceſ- 'ſary Authenticity.'

This Work was publiſhed with a Deſign to induce the Court of *Spain* to a further Conqueſt of, an intire Reduction of, and the full ſettling of *California*, as of the utmoſt Importance to Religion and the State; and one of the Arguments is, for their immediate putting what he recommends

commends in Execution, the repeated Attempts of the *Engliſh* to find a Paſſage into the *South Sea*. And obſerves, ‘ Should they one Day ſuc-
‘ ceed in this, why may not the *Engliſh* come down through their Con-
‘ queſts, and even make themſelves Maſters of *New Mexico*, *&c.*’ which implies, that he did not look on ſuch an Attempt as void of all Hopes of Succeſs; and he again ſays, ‘ Whoever is acquainted with the pre-
‘ ſent Diſpoſition of the *Engliſh* Nation, and has heard with what Zeal
‘ and Ardour the Project for a North-weſt Paſſage has been eſpouſed by
‘ many conſiderable Perſons, will be convinced that the Scheme is not
‘ romantick, and it would not be ſurprizing if the Execution of it ſhould
‘ one Day come under Deliberation.’ Thus artfully hints, ſhould the Scheme come under Deliberation, the Event would be to be feared; and though he aſcribes his Opinion of its not being romantick, is, to many conſiderable Perſons having eſpouſed the Scheme, yet he tacitly applies to their own Knowledge, to what the Court of *Spain* knows as to this Paſſage. He then proceeds, ‘ If this ſhould ever happen,’ the Deliberation, ‘ what would be the Condition of our Poſſeſſions?’ The Deliberation would, from Conſequences that would follow on ſuch a Deliberation, endanger our Poſſeſſions.

Don Cortez informed the King, by a Letter of the 15th of *October* 1524, that he was building two Ships, to get a Knowledge of the Coaſt yet undiſcovered between the River of *Panaco* and *Florida*, and from thence to the Northern Coaſt of the ſaid Country of *Florida*, as far as the *Baccaloo*, ‘ It being certain, as he expreſſes himſelf, that on that
‘ Coaſt is a Streight running into the *South Sea*’—‘ God grant that the
‘ Squadron may compaſs the End for which it is deſigned, namely, to
‘ diſcover the Streight, which I am fully perſuaded they will do, be-
‘ cauſe in the Royal Concerns of your Majeſty nothing can be con-
‘ cealed; and no Diligence or Neceſſaries ſhall be wanting in me to ef-
‘ fect it.’ Again, ‘ I hereby inform your Majeſty, that by the Intelli-
‘ gence I have received of the Countries on the upper Coaſt of the
‘ ſending the Ships along, it will be attended with great Advantage to
‘ me, and no leſs to your Majeſty. But acquainted as I am with your
‘ Majeſty’s Deſire of knowing this Streight, and likewiſe of the great
‘ Service it would be to your Royal Crown.’ Vol. i. P. 130.

Agreeable to this Letter ſeveral Attempts were made by Sea to diſcover whether *Florida* was Part of the Continent, or ſeparated by a Streight; but whether *Cortez* purſued his Deſign by ſearching between *Florida* along the Coaſt of *Baccaloos*, *Newfoundland*, and the *Terra de Labrador*, for a Streight, by which there was a Paſſage from the *North* to the *South Sea* is uncertain. *New Spain* comprehended the Country from the Cape of *Labrador* to the Cape *de los Martires*, or of *Martyrs*, oppoſite to the Iſland of *Cuba*. From thence to the Streights of *Magellan* was called *Florida*.

The King of *Portugal*, with a View of finding a ſhorter Paſſage to thoſe Parts of the *Indies*, which he had diſcovered, than by the Cape of *Good Hope*, ſent, in the Year fifteen Hundred, *Gaſper de Corte Real* to the North of *America*, who landed on the *Terra de Labrador*; alſo gave his Name to a Promontory on that Coaſt which he called *Promonterium Corteriale*. The Name of *Labrador* implies a fertile Country, and given in Diſtinction from the high barren mountainous Country to Northward, which *Gaſper* diſcovered in Latitude ſixty, and to the Southward of it. But this Diſtinction ſeems to have been ſoon loſt, and the Name of *Labrador* is now given to the whole Coaſt.

From the Knowledge we have of theſe Parts we may conclude, that the *Promonterium Corteriale* was what we at preſent name *Cape Chidley*, and the Iſlands *de Demonios*, where *Gaſper* loſt a Veſſel, thoſe Iſlands now named *Button*'s Iſlands; and it was *Hudſon*'s Streights to which he gave the Name of the River of the *Three Brothers*, though the Reaſon of his giving that Name is not known to us.

We may perceive from this Account of *Gaſper*'s Voyage, who did not proceed to Weſtward to make a Paſſage, but coaſted down the main Land, the Accounts of their being a *Portugueſe* who made a Voyage through the Streights of *Anian*, calling a Promontory after his Name *Promonterium Corteriale*, hath had ſome Foundation in Truth; and in what is ſaid by *Friſius*, an antient Geographer, calling it the Streights of *Three Brothers*, or *Anian* (which that Word imports) becauſe three Brothers had paſſed through a Streight from the *North* to the *South Sea*. It is alſo apparent that the Name of *Anian* was firſt given by *Gaſper Corterialis*

Corterialis (for ſome particular Reaſon unknown to us) to that Part, which is now *Hudſon*'s Streights. Though in Time this became a proper Name to expreſs a Streight by which there is a Paſſage from the *North* to the *South Sea*, and is contended for to be the proper Name of the Streight that divides *Aſia* from *America*, by which there is a Communication with the *Tartarian* and *Southern Ocean*. After a Diſcovery of theſe Coaſts had been made to Northward, the following Year the King of *Portugal* ſent *Americus Veſpuſino* to Southward, to diſcover the Land there.

Cortez's Deſigns ſeem to have their Foundation in theſe Expeditions of the *Portugueſe*; but it was not until after the Year 1513, that the *South Sea* was diſcovered, and the *Portugueze* had diſcovered the *Moluccas*, that the finding a Streight to the Northward, by which a Paſſage might be made to the *South Sea*, became a Matter of particular Attention, and was the firſt and principal Object of *Cortez*'s Attention after he had become Maſter of the Capital of *Mexico* in 1521; and this Opinion of a Paſſage to Northward continued during the Reign of *Charles* the Fifth. Who in the Year 1524 ſent from *Old Spain* to diſcover a Paſſage to the *Moluccas* by the North of *America*, without Succeſs; but *Eſteven Gomez*, who was ſent on that Expedition, brought ſome *Indians* home with him. Then in the Year 1526 *Charles* the Fifth wrote to *Cortez*, in Anſwer to his Letters, and orders him to ſend the Ships at *Zacapila* to diſcover a Paſſage from *New Spain* to the *Moluccas*.

From this Time, the Year 1526, the Opinion of there being a Streight was generally received, though on what Foundation does not appear. It was certainly on ſome better Reaſon than *Gaſper*'s Diſcoveries; and a Conſideration of the Importance ſuch a Paſſage would be of to the King of *Spain* with reſpect to the *Spice* Iſlands. It is conſiſtent with the Characters of the Emperor *Charles* the Fifth, and of *Cortez*, when there were ſo many other ſolid Projects to purſue and this was preferred, to ſuppoſe that they ſhould go, at that Time, on a meer viſionary Scheme.

The ſame Opinion of a Paſſage to Northward prevailed in the Time of *Philip* the Second, and in the Year 1596 he ſent Orders to the Vice-

roy of *Mexico* for diſcovering and making Settlements in proper Parts of *California*, and one Reaſon aſſigned was, ‘ There was much Talk about ‘ the Streight of *Anian*, through which the *South Sea* was ſaid to com- ‘ municate with that of the *North*, near *Newfoundland*; and ſhould the ‘ *Engliſh* find out a practicable Paſſage on that Side, our Dominions, ‘ which then included all *Portugueſe India*, would be no longer ſecure, ‘ all the Coaſt from *Acapulco* to *Culiacan* being quite defenceleſs, and ‘ from *Culiacan* Northward, not one ſingle Settlement was made on the ‘ whole Coaſt.’ Hiſt. Cal. V. i. P. 163. That now not only the Opinion of there being a Streight prevailed, but it was alſo fixed as to the Part, and had the Name of *Anian*.

The Opinion of a Paſſage ſtill exiſted in the Reign of *Philip* the Third; and the ſame political Motives induced him to order the Conqueſt of *California* to be undertaken with all poſſible Expedition; and one Reaſon aſſigned is, ‘ His Majeſty alſo found among other Papers a ‘ Narrative delivered by ſome Foreigners to his Father, giving an Ac- ‘ count of many remarkable Particulars which they ſaw in that Country, ‘ when driven thither by Streſs of Weather from the Coaſt of *Newfound- ‘ land*; adding, they had paſſed from the *North Sea* to the *South*, by ‘ the Streight of *Anian*, which lies beyond Cape *Mendocino*; and that ‘ they had arrived at a populous and opulent City, walled and well ‘ fortified, the Inhabitants living under a regular Policy, and were a ſen- ‘ ſible and courteous People; with many other Particulars well worth ‘ a further Enquiry.’ It muſt be conſidered this is given us in the Hiſtory of *California*, V. ii. P. 239, from the *Monarchia Indiana* of *Juan Torquemada*, a learned *Franciſcan*, publiſhed at *Madrid* in 1613, and republiſhed in 1723, Vol. i. P. 629, That a Paper of this Sort was found in the Cabinet of *Philip* the Second, was thought deſerving the Attention of *Philip* the Third. However the Matter of it is repreſented here, for nothing could be publiſhed but what was firſt peruſed and altered, ſo as to make it conſiſtent with the Intereſt of Holy Church, the State, or good Manners, before it was licenſed, ſuch Paper muſt have contained ſome material Intelligence as to a Paſſage; and it is ſaid to have contained *ſome remarkable Particulars*. Neither would the Work have been licenſed, if what is related as to their having been ſuch a Paper, had not been true.

Torquemada,

Torquemada, Vol. i. P. 20, quotes *Franciſco Lopez de Gomara*, deemed a careful Writer, and Author of the Hiſtory of the *Indies*. Who ſays the Snowy Mountains are in forty Degrees, and the furthermoſt Land that is laid down in our Maps; but the Coaſt runs to the Northward until it comes to form an Iſland by the *Labrador*, or as ſeparated from *Greenland*; and this Extremity of the Land is five Hundred and ten Leagues in Length.

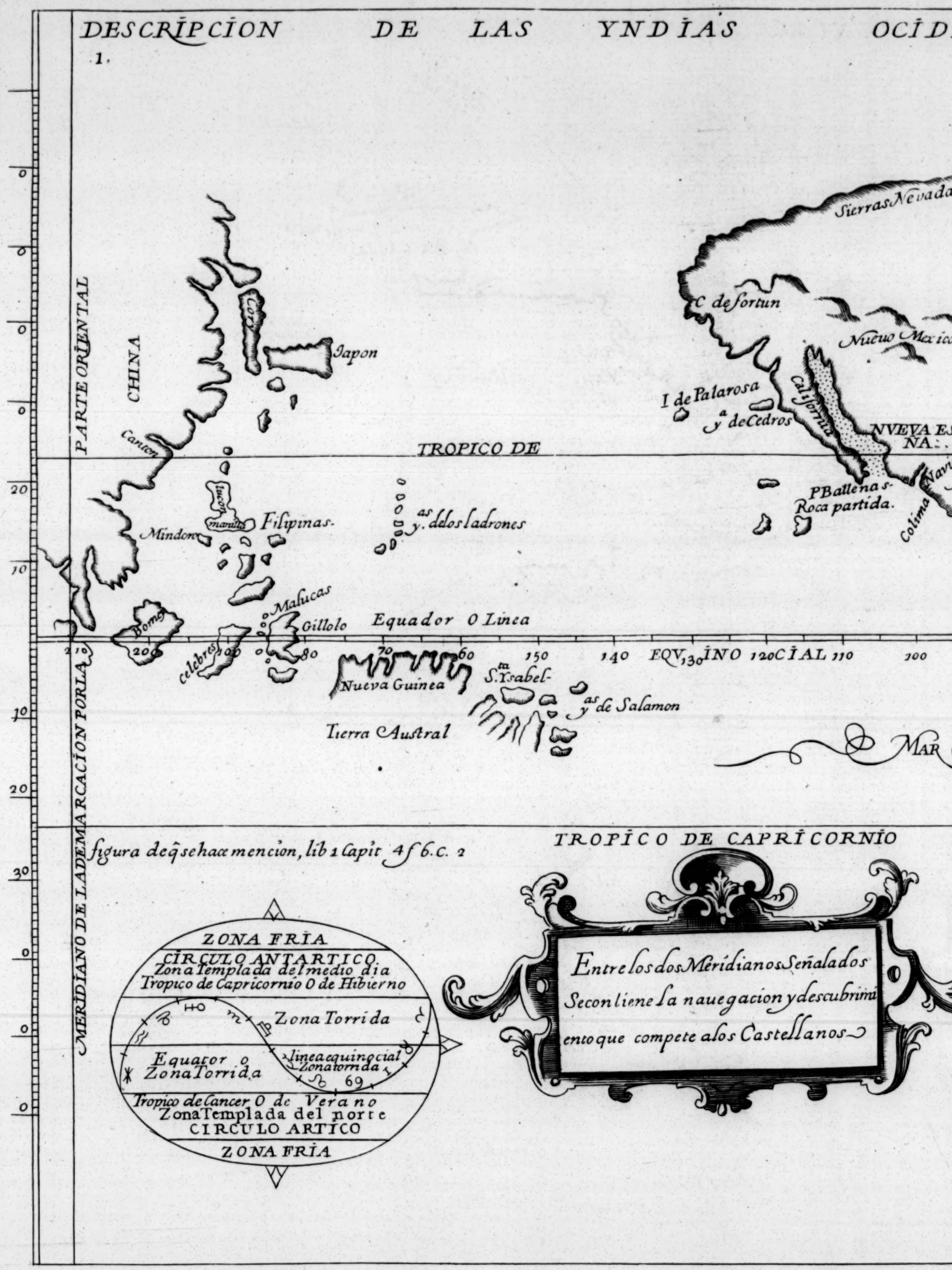
As to what is ſaid as to the Latitude of forty Degrees in this Quotation from *Gomara*, *Torquemada* hath prefixed a Map to his Work, *agreeable* to that formed by the King's Coſmographers, in which he hath made the moſt Weſtern and Northern Part of the Land in almoſt forty-ſeven Degrees, and then the Land trends to the Eaſtward, and the *Serras Nevadas* are repreſented to extend a great Length along the Coaſt, and to Latitude 57 Degrees. Mentions, Vol. i. P. 16, the Royal Coſmographers do not inſert any Thing in their Charts of the Sea Coaſts but what they have upon Oath, or from creditable Perſons; and 'They make 'a Supputation in the Northern Parts of Iſlands, which do not lie near or 'contiguous to the Lands of *Europe*; as to which Iſlands, not long ſince 'diſcovered, the one is called *Iceland*, the other *Greenland*, which are 'the Bounds, Limits, or Marks, that divide the Land of the *Indies* 'from any other Part howſoever ſituated or diſpoſed;' afterwards obſerves, which Iſlands are not far from the *Labrador*; from which it is plain he calls *America* an Iſland. And this is agreeable to what *Acoſta* ſays, in the Senſe which I underſtand him, that *Quivira* and *Anian* extend to the Weſtern Extremity of *America*; and that the Extremity of the Kingdom of *Anian* to the North extends under the *Polar* or *Artick* Circle, and, if the Sea did not prevent it, would be found to join the Countries of *Tartary* and *China*; and the Streight of *Anian* takes its Courſe through the Northern Region, under the Polar Circle, towards *Greenland*, *Iceland*, *England*, and to the Northern Parts of *Spain*. By *Greenland* I underſtand the Land to Northward, which is the North Part of *Hudſon*'s Streights, and *Cumberland* Iſles; and that this Streight ſhould determine here is agreeable to what *Cortez* ſays he would ſend to ſearch as far as the *Baccallaos*, (which was a Name given by *Cabot* in 1496) for the Streight by which he expected a Paſſage from the *North* to the *South Sea*. By *Iceland* is meant, as is apparent from a View of ſuch Map hereunto annexed, the Land to Northward of Cape *Farewel*, or the *Proper Greenland*.

Gomara

Gomara mentions theſe Iſlands had not been long diſcovered. It is apparent from the Map, that they had a very imperfect Account of theſe Diſcoveries, which were made by *Frobiſher* and *Davis*, who alſo were far from being exact in their Computations of the Longitude.

In this Map prefixed to *Torquemada*'s Work, and here annexed, the Southern Part of *Newfoundland* is laid down in Lat. 55, nine Degrees more to the Northward than it ought to be, for which Reaſon the *Labrador*, *Greenland*, and *Iceland*, are placed much further to Northward than they ought to be placed, and are made to extend beyond the Polar Circle. It is from this Suppoſition of *Newfoundland* being in ſo high a Latitude that *Acoſta* ſays, *the Streight of Anian* takes its Courſe through the Northern Region under the Polar Circle towards *Greenland* and *Iceland*. In the ſame Map the extremeſt Point of *California*, anſwerable to Cape *St. Lucas*, is laid down in Longitude 105 Degrees from the Meridian of *Ferro*, and the Extremity of the Land to Weſtward a Cape to Northward of Cape *Fortunes*, but to which no Name is given, and in Latitude 47, is placed in 135 Degrees from the Meridian of *Ferro*; the Difference of Longitude is 30 Degrees. This Map, publiſhed by *Torquemada*, was conſtructed before the Year 1612, therefore prior to a Map publiſhed in *Holland* in 1619, under the Title of *Nova Totius Orbis Deſcriptio*, prefixed to the Voyage of *George Spilbergen*, in which the Errors of *Torquemada*'s Map, as to the Situation of *Newfoundland*, and the Places to Northward are corrected; yet great Errors are committed as to the Parts to Weſtward of *America*, making eighty-five Degrees of Longitude between Cape *St. Lucas* and the Extremity of the Land to Weſtward and Northward in Lat. 42; and ninety-five Degrees between Cape *St. Lucas* and the Extremity of the Land neareſt to *Aſia*. The Reaſon of this Difference is plain, they both err with reſpect to thoſe Parts, of which they had not authenticated Accounts.

Cortez wrote to the Emperor that he had ſent People on Diſcovery, both by Land and Water, it was not deſigned that their Diſcoveries ſhould be communicated, as *Cortez* intended to turn them to his own private Advantage. But when *Mendoza* fitted out two Armaments, one by Land under the Command of *Coronado*, and the other by Sea under *Alarcon*; *Alarcon* was ordered to Latitude 53, to join the Land Forces, and to make a Survey of the Coaſt, and ſee if there



The Original *from which this* Map *is copied, was published in 1608. by the authority of* Philip IV. King of

CIDENTALES S Groenlandia Yslandia

Tierra del labrador.

I. delos Demonios

Nevadas

Terra Nova

BA CALLAOS

Finis Terre

Lisboa

Mexico

B Espiritus Sto

Mississipi

R Jordan

S.ta Elena

Cañaveral

Lucayas

Bahama I

Islas Bermuda

Islas Azores

Gibraltar

Canarias

Golfo de Cortes ó Mexicano

CANCER

Mexico

Vera Cruz

Cuba

Rdeloro

CBlanco

Verde.

Guadalupe

Acapulco

Honduras

Jamaica

Dominica

Martinica

Irinidad

R Miraflores

Ya de cocos

Panama

Cara-

MAR DEL NORTE

MAR DEL SVR

lima

callao

Arica

BRASIL

Pernambuco

C de S Augustin

C Abreos os

C Frio

B. de Vicente

I de los Picos

P de chile

I de Juanfrz

Santiago

Concepcion

Arauco

R de plata

C de S Maria

C Blanco

P. Deseado

P debaldiuia

I.as chiloe

Osorno

Provincia de estrecho

C de las virgenes

Estrecho de Magallanes

C Negro

Tierra del fuego

C de S Salbador

que llaman de Horn

R de las Amazonas

Rio marañon

I.as de D Tristan de Acuña

I. de Aluarez

PARTE OCIDENTAL

MERIDIANO DE LA DE MARCACION PORLAS

T. Jefferys Sculp. 1768.

ng of Spain, *in the 1st Edition of* Torquemadas MONARQUIA INDIANA. *Vol I.*

there was a Paſſage or a Communication by Water through thoſe Countries which *Coronada* was to diſcover and ſubdue, with the *South Sea*. As to *Coronado*, the *Franciſcans* had been before in thoſe Parts, and they gave Information and Direction as to his Part of the Expedition; but as to the Part that *Alarcon* had, on what Information he was ordered to go to Latitude 53, and what Probability there was that it was poſſible for him to find ſuch Paſſage, and join the Land Forces, does not appear. But from his not finding ſuch Paſſage, not joining the Land Forces, and proceeding no further than the Lat. 36, though his Reaſon for not going further is, that the Land then trended to the Northward, which he ſuppoſed would put him further off from the Army, whom he knew were in ten Days March of him, and the Excuſe of Sickneſs and ill Condition of his Veſſels, occaſioned him to return before his Time; yet his Conduct threw the whole Diſgrace of the ill Succeſs of that Expedition on *Alarcon*, both with the Emperor and the Viceroy: And what he wrote to the Emperor was not attended to. He wrote to the Emperor, 'That it was for him only, and not in Subordination to 'the Viceroy, that he had conquered, diſcovered, and entered on the '*Californias*, and all thoſe Lands on the Coaſts of the *South Sea*; that 'he had learnt that ſome of thoſe Lands were not far from the Coaſts 'of *Grand China*; that there was but a ſmall Navigation to the *Spice* 'Iſlands, which he knew was wiſhed for at that Time; that it engaged 'all his Thoughts, and was his moſt ardent Deſire to undertake ſuch 'Navigation.' *Torquem.* Vol. i. P. 609.

On *Alarcon*'s Return *Juan Rodrique de Cabrillo* was fitted out, who went as far as Lat. 44. Sickneſs, Want of Proviſions, and his Ships not being of ſufficient Strength for thoſe Northern Seas, obliged him to return, though he was deſigned to go further to Northward. The Ships returning from the *Philippines*, which was alſo an Expedition in the Time of Viceroyſhip of *Mendoza*, fell in with the Land in Lat. 42, and found it all to be *Terra Firma*, from a Cape there, which they named *Mendocino* to the Port of *La Navidad*. In 1602 *Vizcaino* went, and then the Diſcovery was made by *Martin de Aguilar*; and *Torquemada* tells us, Vol. i. Lib. 5. P. 725. That if there had not been, only fourteen healthy Perſons when they were at Cape *Blanco*, they were reſolved to paſs thro' the Streight, which they named *Anian*, and which Streight is ſaid to be there; and P. 719, ſpeaking of the Entrance of *Martin Aguilar*, it is

underſtood to be a River, by which you may paſs to a great City, which the *Hollanders* diſcovered coming through the Streight, which is the Streight of *Anian*, and which City, he ſays, was named *Quivira*.

Theſe Voyages, and we have Accounts of no others, could not have furniſhed the Coſmographers the principal Materials for compoſing their Map, and it muſt have been agreeable to thoſe Materials, beſides the Accounts of theſe Voyages ſent to *Old Spain*, that they ſet down the utmoſt Limits of the Weſtern Coaſt to be in the Longitude of 135 Degrees from the Meridian of *Ferro*. Therefore it was their Opinion at that Time that one Hundred and thirty-five Degrees was near the Difference of Longitude of the Entrance of the Streight of *Anian* in the *South Sea*, accounting the Longitude from the Meridian of *Ferro*. For which Reaſon the *Spaniards* can never be underſtood to mean by the Streight of *Anian* the Streight which ſeparates *Aſia* and *America*, now named *Beering*'s *Streight*, and by which there is a Communication between the Sea of *Tartary*, or the *Frozen Ocean*, and the *South Sea*.

It is ſomething remarkable, and ſupports what hath been before ſaid as to Deficiency of the *Spaniſh* Records, what Jeſuit *Venegas*, the Author of the Hiſtory of *California*, ſays, Vol. ii. P. 228, ‘ I was extremely ‘ deſirous of finding Capt. *Sebaſtian Vizcaino*'s Narrative, and the Re- ‘ preſentations of the Council to his Majeſty *Philip* the Third, eſpecially ‘ the Maps, Plans, Charts of his Voyage and Diſcoveries, in order to ‘ communicate the Whole to the Publick. Accordingly at my Requeſt ‘ Search was made in the Secretary's Office of the Council of the *Indies*: ‘ But in this Intention of being ſerviceable to the Publick I have been ‘ diſappointed.’ And he again obſerves, on the Governor of *Cinaloa* being ordered to paſs over and take a Survey of the Coaſts, Iſlands, Bays, Creeks, and the Diſpoſition of the Ground of *California*, in the Year 1642, Vol. i. P. 188, ‘ There would have been little Occaſion, ‘ ſays he, for this preparatory Survey, after ſo many others which had ‘ been continually making for above a Century, had the Reports, Nar- ‘ ratives, Charts, Draughts and Maps, which were made, or ſhould ‘ have been made, by ſo many Diſcoveries ſtill continued in being. ‘ But theſe are the Effects of a Want of a proper Care in preſerving Pa- ‘ pers, a Fault to be regretted by Perſons in Power, to whom they ‘ would be of Service in the Conduct of Affairs, and by private Per- ‘ ſons,

‘ ſons, on the Account of their Intereſt, or as Entertainments of a com-
‘ mendable Curioſity.’—‘ But by the Loſs of ſome Papers, either thro’
‘ a Change in the Government, or Irregularity in the Records, the whole
‘ Advantage of an Expedition is loſt.’

From this Declaration by one who being a Jeſuit, and of *Mexico*, compoſing a Work entirely for the publick Service, under the Direction of the Jeſuits; by their Influence could attain the Sight of any Papers which were thought intereſting as to the Work he was compoſing; and his laſt Reflection is not confined to the Records of *Old Spain* only; it is apparent what Uncertainty there is of attaining any Evidence from ſuch Records, as to the Diſcoveries made in the firſt Century after the Conqueſt of *Mexico*, and for a long Time after. The Narrative of *Vizcaino*’s Voyage, and every Thing thereto relating, as to any remaining Records might have become diſputable, had not *Torquemada* collected it, and publiſhed it amongſt other Accounts; yet what *Torquemada* hath preſerved is but imperfect, as is apparent from a Journal of that Voyage, preſerved in a private Hand at *Manilla*, and a Sight of large Extracts from which the Author hath been favoured by a Gentleman in *London*. It is owing to what *Torquemada* and ſome others have collected of the Accounts which the Religious were the Authors of, that the Publick have the Accounts of thoſe Parts; but ſuch Voyages and Accounts as have not met with the ſame Means of being preſerved, the Publick, from ſuch Neglect, know nothing of them. It is plain from *Gomara*’s Account, alſo from *Acoſta*’s, that great Diſcoveries had been made in theſe Parts, but as to many of ſuch Diſcoveries, by whom is not known; and *Venegas* ſays, Vol. i. P. 30, the River *Santo Thome* was diſcovered in the Year 1684; ‘ And tho’ I do not find, ſays he, in the Narratives of
‘ of that Expedition (of Admiral *Otondo*) that *Otondo* ever went aſhore
‘ only to viſit the Harbours of the Eaſtern Coaſt and the Gulph; yet
‘ from the ardent Curioſity of Father *Kino*, and the great Concern he
‘ had in the Affairs of *California*, I cannot think that he ſhould be
‘ miſtaken in any Particular relating to the Diſcovery: That Father
‘ *Kino*, both in his large Manuſcript Map, and likewiſe in the leſſer Im-
‘ preſſion, places the River of *Santo Thome* as riſing between the 26th
‘ and 27th Degrees of N. Latitude, and, after croſſing the whole Penin-

‘ ſula,

'ſula, diſcharging itſelf into the *South Sea*, in the 26th Deg. and form-
'ing at its Mouth a large Harbour, which he calls *Peurto de Anno Neuvo*,
'being diſcovered in the Year 1685. On both Sides the River are
'Chriſtian Villages, as is evident from their Names; *Santiago*, *Santo*
'*Innocentes*, *&c.* yet, in the Accounts of that Time, I do not meet with
'any Intelligence of this Diſcovery; to which I muſt add, that in the
'ſubſequent Relations no mention is made of any ſuch River, Settle-
'ments or Harbours, though even little Brooks, are taken Notice of.'
And he obſerves many other Difficulties occur about this Coaſt. This Harbour made by the River *Santo Thome*, is evidently that which *de Fonte* and others call *Chriſtabel*. Some Settlements had been made there, as theſe Names were given, but either deſerted from the Barrenneſs of the Country, or had been only frequented by thoſe who went out private Adventurers, in order to trade with the Natives. But as to which River, Settlements and Harbour, were not the Names preſerved by Father *Kino*, it would not have been known that any Perſons had been in thoſe interior Parts of *California*, or that there were ſuch Rivers and Harbours. Father *Kino* looked upon it as a Thing ſo well known, as he had no Occaſion to defend himſelf, by giving the Reaſon of his inſerting thoſe Names to protect himſelf from the Reproach of Poſterity. And *Venegas* before tells us, that as to the Diſcoveries which had been made for a Century paſſed, the Papers were loſt.

Between the Year ſixteen Hundred and eighty-five, and the Time of *Venegas*'s Publication, though in the Year ſixteen Hundred and eighty-five, it was well known that there was ſuch a River as *St. Thome*, this River is exploded out of the Maps by the Geographers, on Account of the Uncertainty; not duly conſidering that there was as full a Proof as could be required with reſpect to ſo unfrequented a Part. The Account being from a Perſon whoſe Buſineſs it was to make Obſervations there, who had been ſo laborious and accurate as to diſcover, what had been ſo long deſired to be known, whether *California* was an Iſland or not, as to which he was believed; and the Truth hath been confirmed by later Obſervations of what he had reported, That it was not an Iſland. Therefore there was no Foundation for any Uncertainty in this Caſe, the ſame as with reſpect to the Letter of *de Fonte*, owing to the Neglect of a proper

per Enquiry into the Circumſtances relating to it, by ſuch an Inquiry the Uncertainty would have been removed.

What hath been ſaid is to ſhew that the Argument on which ſo great a Streſs is laid, that there is no Account of this Voyage amongſt the *Spaniſh* Records, is an Argument of no Weight againſt the Authenticity of this Account; and that as a Publication of this Voyage was not permitted, an Account of ſuch Voyage could not be perpetuated by the Religious, the only probable Means at that Time of preſerving it from Oblivion. As it was intended what was the Effect of this Expedition ſhould be kept a Secret, it is not conſiſtent there ſhould be many written Accounts of it; the Officers concerned would be cautious of letting Tranſcripts be made from their Journals; and it may be attributed to an extraordinary Accident, rather than to what could be expected, that a Copy of the Letter of *de Fonte* ſhould ever come into the Poſſeſſion of the *Engliſh*.

Theſe Obſervations being previouſly made, we are better enabled to conſider, what we have before inſerted, the Objection of *Venegas* for not inſerting this Account of *de Fonte*, as being of little Credit; but he ſeems rather to wiſh that we would be of his Opinion, than to imagine that he could convince us by any Arguments; therefore excuſes himſelf as to the Length of the Diſpute he might be engaged in. His Manner of expreſſing himſelf with reſpect to this Diſappointment in the Secretary's Office, ſhews he hath a Manner of Addreſs that his Words will admit of a further conſtructive Meaning than what is ſet down. The principal Object of his Writing is to incite the Court of *Spain* to prepare in Time againſt the ill Conſequences of the *Engliſh* making a Diſcovery of a Paſſage; and he is to be underſtood, that it is not only his Opinion that the finding of ſuch a Paſſage is practicable, but he apprehends it is of the Opinion of the Court alſo. Declares, that ſuch Opinion hath prevailed from the firſt ſettling of *Mexico*, and that there really is a Paſſage in ſuch a Manner as a Perſon who publiſhed an Account of this Sort would be permitted to expreſs himſelf, to have it paſs the Approbation of the Licenſer; and does not deſire to ſuppreſs the Account of *de Fonte*, as it is an abſolute Contradiction to what he would infer, there being a

Paſſage, and in ſuch Letter it is declared there is no North-weſt Paſſage. For he muſt have had further and better Authorities for his Aſſertions of there being a Paſſage than ſuch, as that ſingle Aſſertion would prevail againſt. But deſired to ſuppreſs this Account, as it was an Account which he knew it was more conſiſtent with the Deſigns of the Court, it ſhould be continued in Oblivion than revived. Mentions it therefore as the *Contents of a* Paper publiſhed in *London*, which contained a Narrative of little Credit; and to give the better Authority to what he ſays, as he could not truſt to the Opinion that might be had of ſuch Account on a fair Repreſentation of the Title; to ſupport the Character he gave of it, therefore uſes Art, miſrepreſenting ſuch Title; ſays it was *by Order of the Viceroy of* Peru, *in the Year* 1640, and *giving an Account of the moſt material Tranſactions and Adventures in this Voyage.* Was the Letter ſo entituled, the *Tranſactions* and *Adventures* of a Commander in Chief of the Navy, in *New Spain*, he would not be ſingular in his Opinion, but it would be underſtood by every one as a Romance, and not deſerving of Credit.

This Miſrepreſentation is intentionally done; for if he never ſaw the Letter, or had not a right Account of it, on what Authority could he aſſert it was of little Credit; and that it would engage him in a long Diſpute, a Diſpute which his Sagacity would point out to him how to determine in a very few Lines, by proving that there was no ſuch Perſon as *de Fonte*, Admiral of *New Spain*; which it was in his Power to do had it been the Caſe. But what he mentions is ſo far from a Denial of there being ſuch a Perſon Admiral of *New Spain*, that he gives us the Name, and ſets forth the Character *de Fonte* was in, in a more proper Manner than we have it expreſſed in the Title of the Letter, *Bartholomew de Fuentes, Commander in Chief of the Navy in New Spain and Peru, and Preſident of Chili*; and he is to be underſtood not to mean that there was no ſuch Perſon, but that the Narrative is not credible as to any ſuch Voyage having been made by Admiral *de Fonte*.

By a Schedule of the King of *Spain* in 1606 to the Governor of the *Philippines*, *Vizcaino* was to be again fitted out to diſcover a Harbour on the Weſtern Coaſt of *California*, for the Reception of the *Aquapulco* Ship;

Ship; but the Death of *Vizcaino* prevented that Deſign being carried into Execution; as the Court had found ſo many Diſappointments, and ſuch ill Succeſs in theſe Undertakings, they did not think proper to entruſt it to any other Perſon in the *Philippines* or *New Spain*. And *Venegas* ſays, Hiſt of *Cal.* Vol. i. P. 180. 'During the ſucceeding nine Years inconſiderable Voyages only were made to *California*, and theſe rather to fiſh for Pearls, or procure them by Barter, than to make any Settlement, and therefore they have been thought below any ſeparate Account, eſpecially as in the ſubſequent Royal Commiſſions they are only mentioned in general without any Circumſtances.' Though Commiſſions were given to go into theſe Parts, without any Account remaining to whom, and on what particular Occaſion; it is not to be doubted as in all Commiſſions of this Nature they would be under an Obligation to make a Report to the Court, and it is not to be underſtood that theſe Commiſſions were continued for nine Years only; and therefore what hath been ſaid as to *Parmentiers* and the Jeſuits, their having been in theſe Parts, is not the leaſt improbable. By theſe Commiſſions they were not confined to the Gulph of *California*, is evident from Father *Kino*, as already mentioned, giving Names in his Map to Villages, or occaſional Settlements rather, on the River *Santo Thome:* And he ſays, P. 299, what made Father *Kino* deſirous of diſcovering whether *California* was an Iſland or not, 'That all the Moderns had placed it as an Iſland, there being extant alſo ſome Journals of Mariners, according to which they went round *California* through a Streight, and gave the Parts and Places through which they paſſed their own Names.' It appears from this Account they were permitted, by theſe Commiſſions, to rove about, though not to make Settlements, induced by their private Advantage, and the Advantage to the Government was from their Diſcoveries. Alſo Vol. i. P. 182, he mentions, 'That a great many private Perſons, from the Coaſt of *Culiacan* and *Chametla*, made Trips in ſmall Boats to the Coaſt of *California*, either to fiſh for Pearls, or purchaſe them of the *Indians*;' which is agreeable to *de Fonte*'s Account of the Maſter and Mariners he procured at *Zalagua* and *Compoſtilo*. We may alſo obſerve what the Miſſionaries ſay, as to the Tides at the Head of the Bay, which ſtill adds to the Authenticity of this Account. 'In thoſe Parts the Tide

'ſhifts every ſix Hours; the Flood, with a frightful Impetuoſity, riſes 'from three to ſeven Fathoms, overflowing the flat Country for ſome 'Leagues, and the Ebb neceſſarily returns with the ſame dangerous 'Violence.—However the Pilot went on Shore in the Pinnace, at ſeve-'ral Parts, in order to make a complete Drawing of it for his Chart; 'was equally convinced that this Cape was the Extremity of the Gulph 'of *California*, and that the Waters beyond it were thoſe of the River '*Colorado*.' Therefore it was, from the exact Obſervation of the Tide which this Pilot took ſo much Pains to make, an unſettled Point from whence the Tide proceeded. Which, at the Time of *de Fonte*'s Expedition, was ſaid to come from the Northward, agreeable to the then prevailing Opinion of *California* being an Iſland. According to the uſual Practice, though the true Cauſe of a Phænomena is unknown, to quote that Phænomena that favours a Syſtem which there is a Deſire to eſtabliſh as a Truth, not only in ſupport of but to confirm ſuch Syſtem, as to render the Truth of it unqueſtionable.

After *Vizcaino*'s Death, and though the Court of *Spain* was diſappointed as to finding able and ſufficient Perſons in *New Spain* whom they could intruſt, yet Adventures were made by private Perſons, at their own Expence, both for Diſcovery and Settlements; yet theſe could not be undertaken without the Permiſſion of his Majeſty, who had taken it into his own Hand to grant ſuch Commiſſions, and moſtly required a Voyage to *Old Spain* to attain them; and the next Expedition that was made, at the Crown's Expence, was conducted by an Admiral from *Old Spain*, who arrived in *New Spain* in 1643, Admiral *Caſſanate*, with full Power and Neceſſaries to equip a Fleet, and make Settlements in *California*; and he ſailed on ſuch Expedition in 1644. By which it is apparent that there were Ships at that Time in *New Spain* proper for ſuch Expeditions. As he came into theſe Parts within three Years after *de Fonte*'s Expedition, and took the Command as Admiral of *New Spain* when he arrived, it is to be ſuppoſed the Expedition *Caſſanate* was ſent on was too fatiguing for *de Fonte*, who was therefore retired to his Government of *Chili*. In the Year 1649 Admiral *Caſſanate*, in Reward for his Services, being after the ſame Manner promoted to the Government

of *Chili*, *de Fonte* muſt be dead at that Time. This Circumſtance fixes the Period in which the Copy of this Letter was taken.

As what *Venegas* ſays as to the Account (which Account hath been before mentioned) given by *Seyxas y Lovera*, as to its wanting the neceſſary Authenticity. Beſides the uſual Licences, wherein the Licencers declare there is nothing contrary to good Manners, and beſides being dedicated to the King in his Royal and Supreme Council of the *Indies*, *Seyxas*'s Book hath the Licence and Approbation of the Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of *Alcara*, Preacher to the King, and Principal of a College of Jeſuits in *Madrid*. Hath alſo the Approbation and Licence of the Profeſſor of Erudition and Mathematicks in the Imperial College of the Company of the Jeſuits at *Madrid*. What unfavourable Opinion ſoever we may entertain of the Principles of theſe Perſons, we muſt have ſuch an Opinion of their Prudence, that they would not ſign their Approbation to a Book while it contained an unneceſſary Lie, which could be eaſily expunged, or until they were ſatisfied as to the Authenticity of this Account which *Seyxas* gives of *Peche*'s Voyage, having been publiſhed in various Places. And it is indiſputable from the Countenance his Book received, he was looked on at that Time as a deſerving honeſt Man.

Venegas deſignedly omits other Accounts diſperſed in various Books for Want of neceſſary Authenticity; but it is not to be underſtood that he abſolutely denies that ſuch Accounts are true. Neither is there ſo great an Improbability in ſuch Diſcoveries having been made, as ſome of theſe Accounts mention, as is imagined, when ſuch Accounts are duly conſidered.

We have already mentioned one Account which engaged the Attention of the King of *Spain*, therefore muſt have been of ſome Authority. There is another Account (unleſs it be the ſame Account differently repreſented) of a Ship that, to the Northward of Cape *Blanco*, on the Coaſt of *California*, paſſed through the Streight into the *North Sea*, and to *Old Spain*, which was alſo made known to the King of *Spain*, mentioned by *Torquemada*, Vol. i. P. 725.

Moſt

Moſt of the Diſcoveries are reported to have been made by Ships coming from the *Moluccas*, or from the *Philippine* Iſlands to the Eaſtward, and which have met with bad Weather. And what, in thoſe Times, Ships were neceſſitated to do, if there was a Continuance of hard Gales of Wind, we may learn from the Schedule of *Philip* the Third, Hiſtory of *California*, Vol. i. P. 175, after mentioning a Harbour found by *Vizcaino*, on the Weſtern Coaſt of *California*, adds, ‘ And lies very convenient for Ships returning from the *Philippine* Iſlands to put into, and thus, in caſe of Storms, avoid the Neceſſity of making for *Japan*, as they have ſeveral Times done, and expended great Sums of Money. Beſides, they uſually have Sight of the Coaſt of *China*, which is an additional Benefit, as knowing where they are, they will not as formerly, in caſe of bad Weather, make for *Japan*, or thoſe Iſlands, as the ſame Winds which would carry them thither, bring them into this Harbour. Again, P. 177, conſidering how much it concerns the Security of Ships coming from thoſe Iſlands, in a Voyage of no leſs than 2000 Leagues, on a wide and tempeſtuous Sea, that they ſhould be provided with a Port where they might put in and furniſh themſelves with Water, Wood, and Proviſions: That the ſaid Port of *Monterey* lies in 37 Degrees, nearly about half Way the Voyage.’

A Ship flying before the Wind, and the People ſteering her towards the Coaſt of *America*, to avoid *Japan* and the Iſlands, making a Cape Land on the Coaſt of *California*, would run for what they ſuppoſed a Harbour, and the bad Weather continuing might proceed up the Bay or Opening they were then in, to meet with the Inhabitants, in order to obtain Refreſhments, and to learn where they were, by which Means find a Paſſage. As Ships were diſtreſſed in hard Gales of Wind, in the Manner the Schedule mentions, there is no Improbability of a Paſſage being firſt accidentally diſcovered by a ſingle Ship coming from Sea with a leading Wind into a large Opening, in Expectation of a Harbour, though ſuch Diſcovery hath not been made by Ships intentionally ſent along Shore for that Purpoſe.

It is to be obſerved, the People of the *Philippine* Iſlands are thoſe who moſt talked of a Paſſage: They informed *Peche* and others; and it is eaſily accounted for why they ſhould do ſo: For if the *Portugueze* made the

the Diſcovery in a Ship from the *Moluccas*, there was a conſtant Intercourſe between them and the People of the *Philippines*; and whether the Diſcovery was made by the *Spaniards* or *Portugueze*, ſome of the Company who were aboard ſuch Ship as had paſſed through the Streight from the *South* to the *North Sea*, would return to the *Moluccas* or the *Philippines*; and others would meet their Acquaintance from thence in *Portugal* or *Old Spain*; who would take Pleaſure in relating to them the Accounts of their Voyage, and which they who heard thoſe Accounts would be equally fond of communicating to others, eſpecially when they returned back to the *Indies*. By which Means it would be known that there had been ſuch a Diſcovery; and it would be out of the Power of the King of *Spain* or *Portugal* to prevent its being ſo far known, but could prevent the Account of ſuch Diſcovery being publiſhed, or the Particulars communicated to Foreigners.

In the Year 1568 *Salvatierra*, a Gentleman of *Spain*, who had accidentally landed in *Ireland* from the *Weſt Indies*, gave an Account of a Paſſage having been made by one *Andrew Urdanietta*, and by the Circumſtances of that Account it was about the Year 1556 or 1557. This *Urdanietta* was a Friar, was with and greatly aſſiſted *Andrew Miguel Lopez de Legaſpi* in the Expedition to the *Philippine* Iſlands in the Year 1564, and was called the celebrated Religious *Andrew de Urdanietta*. His being thus employed, and ſo ſerviceable in this Expedition to the *Philippine* Iſlands, as he is ſaid to have been, implies, that he had a prior Knowledge of thoſe Parts, and muſt have been there before; and the Character that *Salvatierra* gave of him to Sir *Hugh Sydney*, then Lord Deputy of *Ireland*, and Sir *Humphrey Gilbert*, was, that he was the greateſt Diſcoverer by Sea that was in that Age.

Salvatierra ſaid that *a North-weſt Paſſage* was conſtantly believed to be in *America* navigable; and that *Urdanietta* had ſhewed him at *Mexico*, eight Years before *Salvatierra* arrived in *Ireland*, a Chart made from his own Obſervations in a Voyage in which he came from *Mare del Zur* into *Germany*, through this North-weſt Paſſage, wherein ſuch Paſſage was expreſſed, agreeing with *Ortelius*'s Map: That *Urdanietta* had told the King of *Portugal* of it as he came there from *Germany* in his return

 home;

Home; but the King earneſtly intreated him not to diſcover this Secret to any Nation: *For that* (ſaid he) *if* England *had once a Knowledge and Experience of it, it would greatly hinder the King of* Spain *and me.* And *Salvatierra* was himſelf perſuaded of a Paſſage by the Friar *Urdanietta*, and by the common Opinion of the *Spaniards* inhabiting *America.*

It was this Account with ſome other that gained the Attention of the greateſt Men of that Age to purſue the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage. Neither would *Dudley*, *Walſingham*, or Sir *Humphrey Gilbert*, and other honourable Perſons about the Court, be deceived with fictitious Stories, and purſue a Phantom. Could the great Abilities and Penetration of a *Walſingham* be defective in this Reſpect, which was ſo perfect in all other Reſpects, as to be the Admiration of the preſent Age. Thoſe who condemn this Account, and ſome other Accounts of this Sort, have not conſidered, that upon a ſlight Surmiſe or Suſpicion only they put their Judgments in Competition with and in Contradiction to the Judgments of thoſe great Men, who embraced no Opinion as to any Matter but what was founded in Reaſon, and all the Circumſtances relating to which they had firſt fully conſidered, and which Opinion they adhered to. As to a North-weſt Paſſage, making a Diſtinction between the Diſappointments as to the effecting the Diſcovery of a Paſſage, and the Probability there was of their being ſuch Paſſage. The King of *Spain* was equally ſucceſsleſs as to the Execution, and at the ſame Time as much aſſured of the Practicability of making it; for which Reaſon Secretary *Walſingham* was concerned at his Death, as the Attention of the Publick was drawn to a *North-eaſt* Paſſage, by which nothing more was propoſed than a Trade to *Cathæy* or *China*, and that a North-weſt Paſſage was neglected on the Part of the *Engliſh.*

It was an Opinion received in *England* in the Year 1560, or earlier, that there was ſuch a Paſſage; and before the *Philippines* were ſettled by the *Spaniards.* Soon after the Diſcovery of *Urdanietta*, *Frobiſher*, who ſet out in 1576, is ſaid to have projected his Deſign, and made an Application for fifteen Years before. Did not ſucceed in the City probably, as they might not ſee any certain Advantage; but when he applied to the Court he ſucceeded. On what Plan he went is alſo evident, to find an Entrance to Northward of the *Labrador*; for when he fell in with

the South-weſt Part of *Greenland*, it was ſuppoſed by him to be the *Labrador* Coaſt.

There is another Account on the Oath of *Thomas Cowles* of *Bedmeſter*, taken the 9th of *April* 1579, at a Time when Oaths were conſidered by all People as ſolemn and ſacred Obligations to declare the Truth. He ſays that ſix Years before, he heard a *Portugueze* read a Book which he ſet out ſix Years before in print in the *Portugal* Tongue, declaring that he, *Martin Chacke*, had found, now twelve Years paſt, a Way from the *Portugal Indies* through the Gulph of *Newfoundland*, which he thought to be in Latitude 59° of the North Pole, by Means that he being in the ſaid *Indies* with four Ships of great Burthen, and he himſelf being in a ſmall Ship of eighty Ton, far driven from the Company of the other four Ships with a Weſt Wind; after that he had paſſed along by a great Number of Iſlands, which were in the Gulph of the ſaid *Newfoundland*, and after that he overſhot the Gulph, he ſet no more Sight on any other Land, until he fell in with the North-weſt Part of *Ireland*; and from thence he took his Courſe homeward, and by that Means came to *Liſbon* four or five Weeks before the other Ships. But the Books were afterwards called in by the King's Order.

This Paſſage was made about ten Years after that of *Urdanietta*; and it is probable *Chacke* was encouraged to proceed through ſuch Paſſage, from the Report or an Account which he had heard of ſuch Paſſage having been before made. It is evident he met with ſome Difficulties in ſuch Paſſage which delayed him, as the Ships were at *Liſbon* ſo ſoon after him, and as he expreſſes that he was far driven from the other four Ships he left them in a low Latitude, and being got to the Northward, without any Expectation of rejoining them, proceeded intentionally to make his Voyage by the Paſſage; which he would not have done to the Hazard of loſing his Veſſel and Cargo, for he was not on Diſcovery, but returning to *Liſbon* in Company with other loaden Veſſels, from whom he was ſeparated, unleſs he had been aſſured that what he undertook was practicable, and a Paſſage had been made by ſome Veſſel before that Time. This Account was received as a Truth by the principal People of the Kingdom, who certainly made a due Enquiry as to the Character of the Perſon who made the Affidavit with reſpect to his

Capacity; there would be a proper Precaution alſo, at the Time of adminiſtering ſuch Affidavit, that it was exact and only what he knew poſitively as to this Matter, tho' there might be other Circumſtances which he was not ſo poſitive in. And as this Account was at that Time believed, it muſt have been on better Reaſons than can be at preſent urged by any one to call the Veracity of this Account in Queſtion.

Juan de Fuca (the Account is from *Purchaſe* and *North-weſt Fox)* was an ancient Pilot, who had been in the *Weſt India* of *Spain* for near forty Years, and had ſailed as Mariner and Pilot to many Places thereof in Service of the *Spaniards*.

He was Pilot of three ſmall Ships which the *Viceroy* of *Mexico* ſent from thence, armed with a hundred Soldiers, under a *Spaniard* Captain, to diſcover the Streights of *Anian* along the Coaſt of the *South Sea*, and to fortify in that Streight, to reſiſt the Paſſage of the *Engliſh* Nation, but by Reaſon of a Mutiny which happened amongſt the Soldiers, for ſome ill Practices of the Captain, the Voyage was overſet, and they returned to *New Spain*.

The Viceroy ſent *de Fuca* out again in 1592, with a ſmall Caravel and Pinnace, armed with Mariners only, for the Diſcovery of the ſaid Streights. Finding the Land to trend North and North-eaſt, with a broad Inlet between 47 and 48, he entered it, and ſailing therein more than twenty Days, found the Land trending ſtill, ſometimes North-weſt, ſometimes North-eaſt, and alſo South-eaſtward, far broader Sea than at the ſaid Entrance; and paſſed by diverſe Iſlands in that Entrance.

He went upon Land in ſeveral Places, and ſaw ſome People on Land, clad in Beaſts Skins; and that the Land was very fruitful, and rich of Gold and Silver, and Pearls, and other Things like *Nova Hiſpania*.

Being entered thus far in the ſaid Streight, and come into the *North Sea* already, and finding the Sea wide enough every where, and to be about thirty or forty Leagues wide in the Streight where he entered; he thought he had well diſcharged his Office, and done the Thing he was ſent to do; and that he not being armed to reſiſt the Force of the ſavage

ſavage People, that might happen to aſſault him, therefore ſet ſail and returned to *Nova Hiſpania*, where he arrived at *Aquapulco*, *Anno* 1592, hoping to be well rewarded by the Viceroy for his Voyage ſo performed.

The Viceroy received him kindly, and gave him Promiſes; but after an Expectation of two Years the Viceroy wiſhed him to go to *Spain*, where the King would reward him; and he accordingly went.

He was well received at Court; but after long Suit could get no Reward to his Content, ſo ſtole away and came to *Italy*, to live amongſt his Kindred in his own Country, being very old, a *Greek* by Birth, born in the Iſland of *Sepholonica*, and his proper Name *Apoſtollos Valerianos*.

De Fuca went firſt to *Leghorn*, then to *Florence*, where he met one *John Dowlaſs*, an *Engliſhman*, a famous Mariner, ready coming for *Venice*, to be a Pilot for a *Venetian* Ship to *England*; they went in Company to *Venice*. *Dowlaſs* being acquainted with Mr. *Lock*, at leaſt a conſiderable Merchant if not a Conſul there; gave him an Account of this *de Fuca*, and introduced him to Mr. *Lock*, who gave Mr. *Lock* the preceding Account; and made a Propoſal, if Queen *Elizabeth* would make up the Loſs which he had ſuſtained aboard the *Aquapulco* Ship taken by Captain *Cavendiſh*, which was to the Value of ſixty Thouſand Ducats, he would go to *England*, and ſerve her Majeſty to diſcover the *North-weſt Paſſage* into the *South Sea*, and engage his Life for the Performance, with a Ship of forty Tons and a Pinnace. They had two ſeveral Meetings on this Occaſion; and *Lock*, at *de Fuca*'s Requeſt, wrote to the old Lord *Treaſurer Cecil*, Sir *Walter Rawleigh*, and Mr. *Richard Hackluit*, the Coſmographer, deſiring a Hundred Pounds for to pay his Paſſage to *England*. His Friends wrote *Lock* Word, the Action was very well liked, if the Money could be procured. As no great Expectations were to be had from this Anſwer, *de Fuca* left *Venice* in a Fortnight after, purſued his Deſign of going to *Greece*, and there died.

There is nothing in this Relation but what is very natural and ſimple. *De Fuca*'s Demand was exceſſive, for which Reaſon, probably, as a Man who over-rated his Services, he was not rewarded by the *Viceroy* or the *King*; yet the *Viceroy* availed himſelf of him, by ſending him to Court to give an Account of his Voyage, which he might be ordered to do,

as

as another Expedition was deſired, and a Repreſentation for that Purpoſe made by the Viceroy *Luis Velaſco*, as is mentioned in the Schedule of the King. Hiſtory of *California*, P. 173.

It did not appear that he could certainly perform what he undertook, concluding he was in the *North Sea*, from ſuch Sea returned back to *New Spain*, therefore had not acquired a Knowledge of the Entrance into the Streights from the Eaſtward; which was the Difficulty that obſtructed this Diſcovery on the Part of the *Engliſh*, and had been ſo much ſought after, but unſucceſsfully. His Age was alſo a very material Objection, that he would ſcarce be able to bear the Fatigue of ſuch a Voyage, his Deſire to undertake which immediately proceeded from his Avarice: Nor was it conſiſtent that the Hundred Pounds ſhould be ſent over to bring him to *England*, if the other Part of the Terms could not be complied with; which ſeems to be the Meaning of the Expreſſion, the Action is well liked of if the Money could be procured. And *de Fuca*, whoſe Motive for propoſing this Undertaking, was to be ſatiſfied for his Loſs by Captain *Cavendiſh*, would not have altered his Deſign of going into his own Country, and proceeded to *England*, unleſs he was aſſured of his being ſo gratified on a Performance of what he undertook.

Dowlaſs, who was a good Mariner, as he travelled with him, and kept his Company, would have had particular and frequent Converſation with *de Fuca*, and who, as a Mariner, was more capable of finding out if his Account was true, and was thoroughly ſatisfied it was ſo, as he ſpoke to Mr. *Lock* about him. Neither *Lock* nor *Dowlaſs* could have any ſiniſter Views, but only animated by a publick Spirit to do their Country ſo acceptable a Service, which it was thought to be in *England*, as it is ſaid the Action is well liked of.

As to *de Fuca* being taken Priſoner by Captain *Cavendiſh*, and how did he eſcape out of the Hands of the *Engliſh?* When the Ship was taken all the People were put aſhore on the Coaſt of *California*, the Goods were taken out, and then the Ship was ſet a Fire, which burnt to the Water Mark, the Wreck floated aſhore, they erected Jury-maſts in her, and fortunately got to *Aquapulco*.

De

De Fuca ſays, the Cauſe he thought of the ill Reward he had of the *Spaniards* was, that they underſtood very well the *Engliſh* Nation had now given over all their Voyages for the Diſcovery of a *North-weſt Paſſage*, wherefore they feared not them to come any more that Way into the *South Sea*; and therefore they needed not his Service therein any more: Which is ſo far agreeable to the Accounts of thoſe Times, that, after the Death of Sir *Francis Walſingham*, the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage had no Patron at Court; and Sir *Francis* had particularly intereſted himſelf in procuring *Davis* to go on his laſt Expedition. The Diſcovery was not re-aſſumed until the Year 1602, by the *Muſcovy* Company, who had never engaged as a Company in this Diſcovery; but having made ſome ſucceſsleſs Attempts, as to the North-eaſt Paſſage, fitted out Capt. *George Weymouth* for the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, which it is obſervable was the ſame Year with *Vizcaino*'s Expedition. And it is obſervable the next Expedition for the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage, was not until the Year 1606, when Mr. *John Knight* was fitted out; and the ſame Year the King of *Spain* orders *Vizcaino* on a third Expedition, but *Vizcaino* died, though in the interim *Vizcaino* had been to *Old Spain*, to make Application to make a freſh Attempt, at his own Expence, and he could not obtain Permiſſion of his Majeſty. As the Expeditions which the Court of *Spain* order peremptorily to be undertaken, correſpond as to the Time with thoſe from *England*, ſhews a Jealouſy on the Part of the King of *Spain* that the *Engliſh* might ſucceed as to a Paſſage through the Streights. And though it is mentioned as the principal Deſign in the Expeditions by Order of the King of *Spain*, is the Diſcovery of a Harbour for the *Aquapulco* Ship, the Publick underſtood there was yet a farther Deſign, and as much may be collected from the King of *Spain*'s Schedule in 1606. Count *de Monterey*, ‘ by purſuing the Diſcovery intended by *Don Luis de* ‘ *Velaſco*, wrote to me concerning, and was of Opinion that ſmall Veſ- ‘ ſels from the Harbour of *Aquapulco* were the fitteſt; and that in the ‘ Diſcovery might be included the Coaſts and Bays of the Gulph of *Ca-* ‘ *lifornia*, and of the Fiſhery, to which, in my Letter of the 27th of ‘ *September* 1599, I ordered to be anſwered, that the Diſcovery, and ‘ making Draughts, with Obſervations of that Coaſt, and the Bays along ‘ it, having appeared to me *highly convenient*, it was my Will he ſhould

‘ immediately

'immediately put it in Execution, without troubling himſelf about *Ca-*
'*lifornia*, unleſs occaſionally—And *Sebaſtian Vizcaino* carefully informed
'himſelf of theſe *Indians*, and many others, whom he diſcovered along
'the Coaſt for above eight Hundred Leagues; and they all told him,
'that up the Country there were large Towns, Silver, and Gold;
'whence he is inclined to believe that great Riches may be diſcovered,
'eſpecially as, in ſome Parts of the Land, Veins of Metal are to be ſeen;
'and that the Time of their Summer being known, a farther Diſcovery
'might be made of them by *going within* the Country, and that the
'Remainder of it may be diſcovered along the Coaſt, as it reaches be-
'yond 42 Degrees, the Limits ſpecified to the ſaid *Sebaſtian Vizcaino* in
'his Inſtructions.' Though theſe Orders were received in *Mexico* in 1699, no Voyage was ſet out on until 1602, the Time that *Weymouth* ſailed, then probably enforced by additional Orders from the Court of *Spain*. The Expedition which was overturned by the Mutiny of the Soldiers, ſeems to have been about the Time of Captain *Davis*'s Expedition; for *de Fuca* ſays, after the Voyage was ſo ill ended, the Viceroy ſet him out again in 1592, which implies a Diſtance of Time between the firſt and ſecond Voyage.

The Inſtructions *Vizcaino* had in the firſt Voyage were given by the Viceroy, for it was the Viceroy who appointed him, and were formed according to the Opinion that the Land beyond forty-two Degrees took a Courſe to Weſtward and Southward of Weſt. And the Maps were conſtructed agreeable thereto, therefore the King ſays, '*Vizcaino* had 'repreſented to him that the Coaſt, as far as 40 Degrees, lies North-'weſt and South-eaſt, and that in the two other Degrees, which makes 'up the 42 Degrees, it lies North and South,' and, as before mentioned, ſays, 'and that the Remainder of it may be diſcovered along the Coaſts, 'as it reaches beyond 42 Degrees, the Limits ſpecified to the ſaid *Se-*
'*baſtian Vizcaino* in his Inſtructions.' Therefore when *Martin Aguilar* got to 43 Degrees and found an Opening, he concluded, as the Coaſt was repreſented to be terminated to the Northward, by the Maps and Charts in Uſe, that this muſt be the deſired Streights; and therefore ſaid on their Return, 'they ſhould have performed a great deal more, had 'their Health not failed them; for it is certain that only fourteen Per-'ſons enjoyed it at *Cape Blanco*. The General and thoſe that were with

'him

'him had a mind to go through the Streight, which they call of *Anian*, 'and is ſaid to be thereabouts. It had been entered by the foreign 'Ship, who gave Intelligence of it to the King, deſcribing its Situa-'tion, and how through that Paſſage one might reach the *North Sea*, 'and then ſail back to *Spain*, along *Newfoundland* and the Iſlands of '*Baccalaos*, to bring an Account of the Whole to his Majeſty.' *Torquemada*, Vol. i. P. 725. But it is very plain the King had another Information of this Matter, and as to the Extent of the Land to Northward. *Luis de Velaſco* was the Viceroy in whoſe Time the Expedition of *de Fuca* was; and the Expedition of *Vizcaino* was under the Direction of the Count *de Monterey*, who was either not informed of what had been done by *de Fuca*, or might not think *de Fuca*'s Account of ſufficient Authority to juſtify him, the Viceroy, in drawing his Inſtructions agreeable thereto; contrary to the general Opinion of the Coſmographers at that Time, and the Deſcription they gave of the Coaſts in their Maps.

It muſt appear from what hath been ſaid that there are no ſuch great Improbabilities in the Accounts of *Salvatierra*, *Chacke*, or *de Fuca*, as hath been repreſented. It is alſo evident that the *Engliſh* had great Expectations of ſucceeding; and the Court of *Spain* had great Apprehenſions we ſhould meet with Succeſs, and be enabled to attain a Paſſage by the Streight of *Anian* into the *South Sea*; for which there muſt have been ſome reaſonable Foundation both on the Part of the one and the other. The *Engliſh* were firſt induced to attempt the Diſcovery of ſuch a Paſſage, from the Accounts which they had from *Spain* of there being ſuch a Paſſage. The Court of *Spain* entertained, as hath been ſhewn, an Opinion of there being ſuch a Paſſage from the Time they conquered *Mexico*; and, agreeable to what *Torquemada* ſays, had a certain Account of it, or at leaſt an Account which appeared to the King to be authentick. What that Account really contained we do not know, nor was it conſiſtent that it ſhould be made publick; therefore what is ſaid as to the Particulars of it are but Conjecture, and Repreſentations upon Reports, for which the Reporters could have no real Authority. As *Vizcaino* regretted being prevented, by the Sickneſs of his People that he could not go round the World, and have carried home to *Old Spain* his Account of his Expedition. This firm Perſuaſion that he ſhould have accompliſhed his Paſſage to *Old Spain*, by the Streight of *Anian*, muſt

have been from ſome Information which he had received before he ſet out, that ſuch Paſſage was practicable: Neither is it mentioned as if he propoſed making a Diſcovery of it, but as of a Thing before done. It was the Opinion of all thoſe who were with him, that it was practicable; which is agreeable to what *Salvatierra* informed Sir *Hugh Sydney*, and Sir *Humphrey Gilbert*, That a *North-weſt Paſſage from us to* Cathay *was conſtantly believed in* America *navigable*. *Vizcaino*, who is repreſented as a Commander of great Conduct and Diſcretion (and which the Account of his Voyage expreſſes him to have been) would not have attempted to make a Paſſage thro' ſuch Streights, to the Hazard, perhaps entire Loſs, of the King's Ships, and what he had before done rendered of no Effect, unleſs he had a diſcretionary Power either to paſs to *Old Spain* by theſe Streights, or return to *Aquapulco*.

After the Expedition of *Knight* failed, and *Vizcaino* died, we hear of no other Expeditions at the Expence of or by the poſitive Order of the Court of *Spain* until that of Admiral *Caſſanate*, who went the third Year after the Expedition of *de Fonte*, to make a Survey of the Coaſt of *California*; yet we have no Reaſon to conclude there were no other Expeditions, but it is rather to be ſuppoſed that, after the *Engliſh* had proceeded in their Diſcoveries as far as *Hudſon*'s Bay, the Court of *Spain* thought it neceſſary, and found an effectual Way of keeping their Expeditions, both in reſpect to their Equipment and what was done on ſuch Expeditions a Secret, by ſending Officers from *Old Spain* to conduct them, and as to which the Religious would not think themſelves at Liberty to make any Publication without the Permiſſion of the Court.

Having no Intercourſe by Trade with thoſe Parts, we cannot be acquainted with what is tranſacted in thoſe Parts, any further than what the *Spaniſh* Writers are permitted to inform us, and the imperfect and uncertain Intelligence of thoſe who have been cruizing in thoſe Seas. The *Spaniſh* Nation have been particularly cautious of keeping the Knowledge of their Coaſt ſecret: Neither was it known, in the Year 1746, that an exact Survey was made of thoſe Coaſts until *Paſco Thomas* annexed to his Account of Lord *Anſon*'s Expedition, publiſhed in 1745, a Copy of a Manuſcript, which Manuſcript contained an Account of the Latitudes

tudes and Longitudes of all the moſt noted Places in the *South Sea*, corrected from the lateſt Obſervations by *Manuel Monz Prieto*, Profeſſor of Arts in *Peru*, and are compoſed with as much Preciſion and Exactneſs, as Tables of that Sort are uſually made; but when theſe Coaſts were ſurveyed to the Northward, to attain a Knowledge of which was formerly attended with ſuch immenſe Difficulty; and to what Purpoſe and what Trade is carried on there, we are at preſent entire Strangers to. It is by Accident only that we have this Account; and if the *Spaniſh* Nation have uſed this Precaution, with reſpect to the Knowledge of their Coaſts, undoubtedly they would uſe the ſame Caution with reſpect to giving us any Inſight as to how we might find a more ready Acceſs to ſuch Coaſts by a *North-weſt* Paſſage.

The Point of *Sueſte del Eſtrech d'Anian*, inſerted in ſuch Tables, ſhews the Opinion of the Streights is far from being exploded; but it is acknowledged by the Geographers of *Peru* and *New Spain*, at the preſent Time, that there are ſuch Streights. The naming the *South Point* of the *Streight* implies there is Land to the Northward, as to which it doth not ſeem to be conſiſtent with the Purpoſe of the Perſon who compoſed this Table to take any Notice, but that there is ſuch Land is confirmed by the *Ruſſian* Diſcoveries.

The Extent of *America* to Northward and Weſtward, that *America* and *Aſia* were contiguous and only ſeparated by a Streight, that *California* was an Iſland, that a *Paſſage* by the *North-eaſt* was practicable, have been by later *Geographers* treated as *Chimeras*, contrary to the earlieſt Accounts, and the Reports of the firſt Diſcoverers, and which, by later Accounts, the Conſequence of actual Obſervations are found to be true. There was a Simplicity and Honour in the People of that Age; there was no Motive for telling the Lie, that they faithfully reported the Diſcoveries they made, and if a Falſhood was diſcovered it might be dangerous in the Conſequences; their Voyages were not lucrative Jobs, in Hopes of a Repetition of which they formed their Accounts accordingly. There was no particular Syſtem to ſupport, for the Parts they went to were entirely unknown, that a Reward and Reputation ſhould be procured through a prevailing Intereſt to ſuch as ſpoke in Favour of the Syſtem. While thoſe to whoſe Fidelity and Aſſiduity alone

it would be owing that ſuch Diſcoveries were made, though repeated Endeavours were uſed to render the Undertaking ineffectual; and through whoſe Means alone the Truth would be made known to the Publick; ſhould be ill ſpoken of, accuſed of Bribery, diſcountenanced, and the whole Merit aſcribed to, where it would be leaſt deſerved, and, in Truth, where there could not be the leaſt Pretenſion. Nevertheleſs the Reward given would be an Inſtance of a generous Regard in thoſe who had Power to beſtow of rewarding Merit, though they were inevitably deceived as to the proper Perſons to whom ſuch Reward ſhould have been given.

No Authorities have been produced from Tradition or Hiſtory which oppoſe the Probability of there being a North-weſt Paſſage, or the Reality of this Account of *de Fonte*, which the more we examine the leſs there appears to be of a Falſity, the Circumſtances of it ſo conſiſtent and united, and there are ſo many extra Circumſtances which concur with that Account, that we cannot but admit to be an inconteſtable Truth. We have not had a full Account of the Voyages and Expeditions of the *Spaniards* in *New Spain*, as ſome of them have not been permitted to be publiſhed. *Venegas* particularly mentions, Vol. i. P. 14, and in other Parts, There are alſo Accounts of Voyages made to other Parts of the World, which are only preſerved in the Collections of the Curious, and it is known but to few Perſons that ſuch Voyages were ever made. There are ſome Voyages which are mentioned to have been made, but cannot, after the moſt diligent Inquiries, be procured; yet it is no juſt Objection to the Authenticity of ſuch Voyages, or as to their not having been made. What the firſt Diſcoverers repreſented as to the Extent of *America*, its being contiguous to *Aſia*, as to *California*, and as to a North-eaſt Paſſage, being in all Reſpects found to be true, there is the greateſt Reaſon to believe that there is a North-weſt Paſſage; and it is conſiſtent with that Precaution which the *Spaniſh* Nation have made Uſe of, that we ſhould not have any authentick Accounts relating to ſuch Paſſage, which they were deſirous of diſcovering as a ſhorter Way to the *Spice* Iſlands and the *Indies*. But when the King of *Portugal* and *Spain* came to an Agreement as to the *Moluccas*, the principal Reaſon for making ſuch Diſcovery was determined, and it became their mutual Intereſt that it ſhould not be known that there was ſuch a Paſſage. Their continued Silence with reſpect to ſuch Paſſage, implies they are acquainted

acquainted with there being ſuch a Paſſage, though not to an Exactneſs. It cannot imply they are dubious, when we conſider the Number of Circumſtances there are already mentioned, which expreſs the contrary.

There are Circumſtances in *de Fonte*'s Account which ſhew the Inference of there being no *Northweſt Paſſage* is not juſt, though juſt as far as it appeared to *de Fonte*, as the River *Parmentiers* was not navigable for Shipping. One Circumſtance is, that in the River *Haro*, and Lake *Velaſco*, there were Salmon Trouts and large white Perch; alſo in *Los Reyes* and *Lake Belle*, but in Lake *de Fonte* excellent Cod and Ling; which are Fiſh that always abide in the Salt Water, the others come out of the Salt Water into the freſh Waters to ſpawn. Which *de Fonte* would account for that they came into the Lake *de Fonte* from the *North Sea*, and when he paſſed the Streight of *Ronquillo*, ſuppoſed himſelf to be in that Sea, or from the Intelligence that he obtained from *Shapley* that he was in a Gulph or Branch of it. Another Circumſtance, as it flowed in the River *Los Reyes* twenty-two Feet, and in *Haro* twenty-four, and but a ſmall Tide went into Lake *Belle*, *de Fonte* concluded that the Weſtern Tide terminated there, and that as the Waters roſe to ſuch a Heighth at the Entrance of thoſe Rivers, that it was a Gulph he was in which confined theſe Waters and occaſioned their riſe at ſuch Entrances of the Rivers. That the Tides in *Parmentiers*, Lake *de Fonte*, and the Streights of *Ronquillo*, were from the *North Sea*. But by later Obſervations of the Riſe of the Tides, a Tide cannot proceed from *Hudſon*'s Bay to that Sea where *Shapley* was met by *de Fonte*, than through the Streights of *Ronquillo* into the great Lake of *de Fonte*, and afterwards to riſe ſo high in the River *Parmentiers*. Neither can ſuch a Tide proceed through the broken Land to Northwards of *Hudſon*'s Streights, named *Cumberland* Iſles (formerly *Eſtotland)* and which extend as far as Latitude 70; for it is evident the Strength of ſuch Tides is ſpent in *Hudſon*'s Bay and *Baffin*'s Bay: For at the Bottom of *Hudſon*'s Bay it flowed but two Feet, at the Bottom of *Fretum Davis* or *Baffin*'s Bay, but one Foot. Which is agreeable to the Opinion of all the Diſcoverers of that Time, as to the Eaſtern Tide from the Proportion that the great Spaces or Seas which were to receive it bore to the Inlets by which it came in, that the Force of ſuch Tide muſt be conſumed in ſuch Seas, and therefore expected to meet with a Tide from Weſtward, which counterchecked the Eaſtern Tide. On the other Hand, if we conſider this Tide to be

from

from the Weſtern Ocean, ſuch Tide forced through various Entrances up a Streight as that of *de Fuca*, muſt enter the Sea where *Shapley* was met, with great Impetuoſity; riſe in Heighth proportionable to the Width in all Openings that there are to receive it. As it is the Tide round *Greenland*, and that which comes from the Southward along the Coaſt of *Labrador*, being both received in thoſe Indraughts of *Hudſon*'s Streights, and the broken Lands of *Cumberland* Iſles, which cauſes the Riſe of the Tides there. It may be ſuppoſed that the *North-eaſt* Part of the *South Sea*, and the Streight of *de Fuca*, received the Tides which ſet to Eaſtward along the Weſtern Main from *Beering*'s Streights, and the Tide which comes from the Southward along the Coaſt of *California*. That the Tide is not from the *Tartarian Sea*, in Lake *de Fonte*, *&c.* is evident from *Bernarda*'s Account, who ſhews there is no Communication with that Sea and the Sea that *Shapley* was met in.

As to the Cod and Ling in Lake *de Fonte*, or as to Salmon, it is not known that there are either Cod, Ling or Salmon in *Hudſon*'s Bay: Neither have there been found Shoals or Banks to which the Cod could repair; nor is it known that any Cod have been catched beyond Latitude 57; an Article to which *Davis* was particularly attentive: Therefore it is not probable that they ſhould come from the *North Sea* through *Hudſon*'s Bay to Lake *de Fonte*. *De Fonte* mentions Shoals in the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*, which he paſſed up. And in *Vizcaino*'s Voyage there is an Account that, off the Iſland *Geronymo* on the Coaſt of *California*, the Ships Companies ſupplied themſelves with Cod and Ling; which ſhews there are Cod and Ling in thoſe Seas. It was reaſonable for *de Fonte* to ſuppoſe that the Cod and Ling came from the Eaſtward from the *Baccaloos*, neither could he otherwiſe ſuppoſe, as the contrary is only known from Obſervations made much later than that Time.

Fox had advanced in 1635, when he publiſhed the Account of his Voyage, that there was a free and open Communication of the Weſtern Ocean with *Hudſon*'s Bay: Which was looked on as an inconteſtable Fact until the Voyage of Captain *Middleton*. What *Fox* ſaid was conſiſtent with the Opinion which all the Diſcoverers had of the Proxinity of the Weſtern Ocean; who therefore judged of the Probability of their Succeſs in the Parts they went into, from the Courſe of the Tides, which

if there was no Weſtern Tide there was no Paſſage. This probably prevented that Succeſs, as to a Diſcovery of a Paſſage, which through their Aſſiduity might otherwiſe have been obtained, had they not paid ſuch a Regard to the Tides, but made a due Survey of the Inlets and Openings of the Coaſt, which on their not finding that a Weſtern Tide came from thence they deſerted, which was alſo the Caſe as to Captain *Moor* in the Search of *Piſtol Bay* as called, to Southward of Lord *Southwell*'s Iſles, there was no Weſtern Tide; therefore a compleat Diſcovery of that Part was not made.

It is to be conſidered that the Northern and Eaſtern Parts of *America*, are more intermixed with Waters than the Parts to Southward are, being a high mountainous Country. The Mountains chiefly conſiſting of a brown rocky Subſtance, not penetrable by the melting Snows or Spring Rains, which therefore run off into the Levels and Valleys, and form inland Seas, great Lakes, and Inlets, which vent their Waters into the Ocean, neceſſary for carrying off that great Quantity and vaſt Bodies of Ice which are formed in the Winter in thoſe Parts, not to be diſſolved, as the greater Part is which is formed to the Southward, by the Influence of the Sun. The Northern and Weſtward Part of *America* is alſo mountainous; and high Ridges of Mountains were ſeen from the Head of *Wager* Bay on the oppoſite Shore of what appeared to be a Lake; therefore there muſt be Lakes and Seas to Weſtward, Reſervoirs for the melting Snows and Rains, alſo ſome Outlet or Channel to carry off the great Quantities of Ice alſo formed in thoſe Parts; and with which *Barnarda*'s Account is conſiſtent, and the greateſt Reſervoir and Diſcharge ſeems to be to the Northward by that North-eaſt Part of the *Tartarian Sea*. The Lake *Velaſco*, Lake *Belle*, Lake *de Fonte*, may be all ſuppoſed to proceed from the ſame Cauſe, the melting Snows and Rains, receive the Ice from the Waters which run into them, which, from the Strength of the Currents and Tides, is ſoon ſhot from the Shores of ſuch Lakes, broken to Pieces and carried off into ſome Paſſage or Inlet into the *South Sea*; and ſuch a Vent or Channel to carry off ſuch Bodies of Ice muſt neceſſarily be, agreeable to what is known by Obſervation in other Parts. The Objection of the great Diſtance it is between the Sea at the Back of *Hudſon*'s Bay, and where *Shapley* was met, will appear of no Validity when we conſider the Diſtance between the

the Streights of *Gibraltar* and the Northern Part of the *Black Sea*. Between the Entrance of the *Sound* to the Entrance of the *White Sea*, between which there is Communication of Waters, or very nearly ſo. And from Point *Comfort* in *Hudſon*'s Bay to Alderman *Smith*'s Sound in *Baffin*'s Bay, between which there is a Communication of Waters without entering into the *Ocean* or *Davis* Streights. From Lake *Superior* to the Streights of *Belle Iſle* at the Back of *Newfoundland*, or to *Cape Breton*, is near forty Degrees of Longitude, or equal to 390 Leagues. And Lake *Superior* hath a Communication with *Hudſon*'s Bay.

This great Afflux of Waters form ſuch Meanders and Labyrinths, as it is impoſſible to ſay whether there is a Communication of Waters, or whether the Waters are divided by ſmaller or larger Tracts or Slips of Land, without an abſolute Survey. The Lands ſo double or fold one within the other, that unleſs you get a proper Sight of ſuch Lands ſo as to diſtinguiſh this, to diſcover the Opening that is between them, there is an Appearance of a Continuance of the Land, and conſequently of a Termination of the Waters. So long as the Tide Argument prevailed it was not thought neceſſary to be ſo accurate in the Searches. A Sight of the Land trending a Courſe contrary to that Courſe which the Diſcoverers were to purſue to make a Paſſage, and the Tide coming from the Eaſtward, rendered a Search any further in thoſe Parts unneſſary: and it may be owing to the great Impropriety of adopting a particular Syſtem, more than to any other Cauſe, that the Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage was not made by thoſe brave induſtrious Diſcoverers, who in a Series ſucceeded each other from *Frobriſher* to *James* and *Fox*.

This ſeems to be certain, that there muſt be one great Channel, as *Hudſon*'s Streights are to Eaſtward, alſo to Weſtward though intricate by which the Waters to Weſtward paſs into the *South Sea*, and as that to Northward, the North-eaſt Part of the *Tartarian Sea*. We already know there is not a Communication by *Hudſon*'s Bay, thro' any Inlet by which the Waters do come in there or ſufficient for that Purpoſe; neither round the Head of *Repulſe* Bay, for then the Current would have been met coming from Weſtward. Therefore ſuch Channel muſt be to Southward and Weſtward, conſiſtent with *de Fuca*'s Account of a Streight, in ſome

ſuch

ſuch Manner as is repreſented in the Map annexed. Which Account is alſo agreeable to that of *Peche*.

De Fuca ſays, he ſailed twenty-ſix Days up ſuch Streight before he entered the Sea; that the Streight grew wider before he entered the Sea. If we allow him fifteen Leagues a Day, from the Entrance of ſuch Streights out of the *South Sea* to where he entered the Sea, by him ſuppoſed the *North Sea*, the Diſtance is 390 Leagues. As he mentions that he found it wide enough every where, this Expreſſion ſhews that he did not ſuppoſe himſelf in the Ocean, but in a Gulph of the Ocean. And *Martin Chacke* expreſſes himſelf, that after he overſhot the *Gulph*, he ſet no more Sight on any other Land. Therefore the Diſtance is agreeable to that Diſtance which *de Fuca* muſt have gone to come into that Sea where *de Fonte* met *Shapley*; the Deſcription that he ſaw both Shores, makes a Conſiſtency alſo in thoſe Accounts. Before *de Fonte*'s Expedition, *Hudſon*'s Bay had been diſcovered, yet that Diſcovery made no Alteration as to the Accounts of *de Fuca* and *Chacke*, as *Fox* ſaid beyond Lat. 64, round that Land there was inconteſtably a Communication with the Weſtern Ocean. Here is an Agreement in three Accounts, by ſeparate Perſons at a Diſtance of Time, who had no Intelligence of what had been done by each other; for *Chacke* was a *Portugueze*; and as *de Fuca* had made his Report to the Viceroy of *New Spain* of what he had done, and what he had done ſeems to be moſtly accounted of by himſelf, therefore no Regard might be had to it in drawing *de Fonte*'s Inſtructions: All which three Accounts agree in there being a Sea to Weſtward of *Hudſon*'s Bay.

De Fuca mentions he was aſhore; ſaw Marks of Gold and Silver; Marquiſates the ſame which was made ſuch an Account of after *Frobiſher*'s return from his firſt Voyage, and from which it may be inferred it was a barren mountainous Country which *de Fuca* paſſed through. He was afraid of the Natives, who were clad in Beaſt Skins; and from whoſe Behaviour he muſt have had ſome Apprehenſion that they would cut him off, as he mentions that he was not armed againſt them. *De Fonte* is very expreſs as to the civil Behaviour of thoſe *Indians* he met with, ſo contrary to the Character of thoſe whom *de Fuca* ſaw. Therefore thoſe whom *de Fuca* ſaw were the *Eſkemaux*, who frequent the mountainous and deſolate Parts, and near to the Salt Waters where they can catch

Fiſh, alſo the Seal and the Whale, from which they get many Conveniencies beſides what is neceſſary for their Subſiſtance; who are mentioned to be alſo on other Parts of the Coaſt of *California*; are repreſented as a fierce and barbarous People, who hold no Treaty or Amity with their Neighbours, who are always in Fear of them.

That *de Fonte* ſhould not paſs up the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*, but go through Land, muſt have been, that the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea* was repreſented as a Gulph, not a Streight, from ſome Obſervations made prior to that Expedition, as to which the Obſervers might be deceived, by its taking a Southerly Courſe through ſome Inlet or Opening obſcured by Iſlands, or the Entrance narrow, that they concluded it only to be ſome ſmall Branch which ſoon terminated; having, at the ſame Time, a large open Channel before them, which they finding afterwards ſurrounded with Land, concluded there was no Communication with any other Waters, but that they had ſeen the Extremity of theſe Waters to Eaſtward. That theſe Waters took a Courſe through that deſert mountainous Country, until they joined with the Waters of the Streights that *de Fuca* came up, the People of *Conoſſet* might not be able to give a juſt Account of, as they lived ſo far to Northward and Eaſtward. Though they, as the Natives of *Conibaſſet* alſo came occaſionally into the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*; the one moſtly frequented to Northward and Eaſtward, the other to Northward and Weſtward, as is apparent from *de Fonte*'s Account; where they had level and fruitful Tracts, as they produced ſo much Maiz; a hunting Country, as there were three Sorts of Deer; alſo Fiſh in their Waters. Whereas the Country on the oppoſite Shore of the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea*, as is apparent from being the Reſort of the *Eſkemaux*, would be rugged, rocky, and remarkably barren, with little Intermixtures of level and fruitful Spots. Therefore the People of *Conoſſet*, or *Conibaſſet*, would have no Inducements to go into thoſe Parts. May be ſuppoſed the oppoſite Coaſt was the Limits of their Enemy's Country, with whom if they went to War, and knew that the Waters of the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea* did communicate to Southward with other Waters; yet it cannot be imagined that they went up thoſe Waters ſo far in their Enemy's Country of ſo wild a Diſpoſition, where they were always in Danger of being ſurpfized, as to know whether thoſe Waters joined with the Sea

in

in which *Shapley* was met. Might alſo be jealous if the Jeſuits, or *Parmentiers*, or others who came there, were very particular in their Enquiries, that they intended to go and reſide amongſt their Enemies, which, as the Nature of *Indians* is, would cauſe them to be on the Reſerve, and ſlack in their Informations, as to thoſe Parts.

That thoſe Perſons who were in thoſe Parts before this Expedition of *de Fonte*, got no Information of this Streight, or of the Waters, as to the Courſe of them to Southward, there muſt be a conſiderable main Land to Southward of Lake *Belle* and Lake *de Fonte*, as is expreſſed in the Map, and as to the Sea to Eaſtward, that Part of it which was to Southward of *Ronquillo*, no more would be apprehended of it, being unacquainted as to the Streight, than that it was a Part of that Sea contiguous to *Hudſon*'s Bay; and it not being known at that Time but the Tides came from the Eaſtward, would have no Reaſon to infer, from the Sea running to Southward, that it communicated with a Streight there.

To take away the Improbability of what is here advanced, we ſhould reflect what Aſſurances former Diſcoverers gave, that had but the Seaſon permitted to proceed, they ſhould certainly have made a Paſſage; though when an Attempt was again made they found their Miſtake; and from Obſervations then made, they ſaw good Reaſon to have a different Opinion as to the Nature of the Paſſage from what they had before, and very reaſonable, as their Searches were made in Parts entirely unknown; and as to the Appearance of the Land, the Courſe of the Waters, and the Set of the Tides, the moſt judicious might be deceived.

The *Spaniſh* Nation had not been able to make out a Paſſage by their various Attempts, agreeable to the Accounts of private Perſons, which probably might give an Opportunity for the Repreſentations of the Jeſuits to be attended to, who would urge every Argument in Behalf of their Diſcovery, and endeavour to invalidate the former Accounts as to a Paſſage; which by that Time, from the ill Succeſs as to diſcovering a Paſſage, might not be at that Time ſo much thought of; and as Difference in Time produces a Change in Opinions, whatever makes for the reigning Opinion is adopted, as every Thing that is contradictory is

 depreciated.

depreciated. The Arguments for the Opinion which prevailed before for a navigable Paſſage might be treated as fallacious and inſignificant, and the Inſtructions for the Expedition of *de Fonte* might be drawn agreeable to the Jeſuits Plan, whom it is evident knew nothing of a Streight, but conſidered the Land of *America* as one continued Continent to Latitude 66. And whatever Weight this Conjecture may have, it is apparent from the Conſideration of *de Fonte*'s Letter, that the Inſtructions were drawn from the Information of ſome who had been before in thoſe Parts: And by whom can it be ſuppoſed more properly that the Court received the Information which they had than from the Jeſuits, whoſe Underſtanding and Character would admit them to a free Converſe with the Miniſter on a leſs Occaſion than they would now have, to give an Account of thoſe Parts they had been in.

The *Court* of *Spain* does not ſeem, from the Proceedings, to be of the ſame Opinion with the *Jeſuits*, or *de Fonte* after his return. As the Governor of *Cinoloa* is immediately ordered to take a Survey of the Coaſts and Harbours of *California*. And the next Year Admiral *Caſſanate* is ſent from *Old Spain*; and it is probable the Court was not of the Opinion of the *Jeſuits* when they gave this Information, but formed the Inſtructions for *de Fonte* agreeable thereto. As the moſt expedient Method, at that Time, for intercepting the People from *Boſton*, was to go the Way they gave an Account of with the Boats through Land, as the Ships might meet with Difficulties and Delays in paſſing up the Streights, alſo ran great Hazard; the *Boſton* Ship might paſs them unperceived. Whereas, on the Plan which was purſued, if they heard by the Natives that the *Boſton* Ship had paſſed, and taken her Courſe further to Southward or Weſtward, *de Fonte* would have repaired aboard his Ship, proceeded down *Los Reyes*, and with the Diligence which he would have made Uſe of, fell in with the *Boſton* Ship either in ſuch *North-eaſt* Part of the *South Sea*, or on the Coaſt of *California*, leaving Orders for *Barnardo* how to act in this Reſpect on his return. From which Conduct, and the Look-out that was kept on the Coaſt of *Mexico* and *Peru*, it would have been alſo impoſſible for the *Boſton* People, unacquainted with theſe Parts, and not expecting ſuch a Diligence was uſed to intercept them, to have made a ſucceſsful Voyage.

That

That there is a Sea to the Weſtward of *Hudſon*'s Bay is reported by the *Indians*, and is repreſented to have Ice in it like *Hudſon*'s Bay.

Governor *Dobbs*, in his Account of the Countries adjoining to *Hudſon*'s Bay (P. 19.) mentions from *Joſeph le France*, that their Savages reported that in the Bottom of the Northern Bay there is a Streight, they can eaſily diſcover Land on the other Side: They had never gone to the End of that Streight. They ſay there is Ice there all the Year, which is drove by the Wind, ſometimes one Way ſometimes another.

The *Indians*, who are called *Northern Indians*, having their Habitations to North-weſt of *Churchill*, mention a Sea to the Weſtward of them, and which is from *Churchill* Factory in *Hudſon*'s Bay twenty-five Days Journey, not a direct Courſe, but from the round they are obliged to take. They ſpeak of the *Eſkemaux Indians* to Eaſtward of them, but never give an Account of any other Nations to Northward or Weſtward of them. Mr. *Scroggs*, who was ſent out by the *Hudſon*'s Bay Company in 1722, had two Northern *Indians*, whom he carried with him, when he was in about Lat. 62. knew the Country very well, and had a great Deſire to go home, ſaying they were but two or three Days Journey from their Family. And the Northern *Indians* who were with Captain *Middleton*, were deſirous of his going near the Shore, between Lat. 62 Deg. and 64. In Lat. 63° and 14′, Captain *Middleton* put two of the *Indians* aſhore, who were deſirous of returning to their own Country. And the Author ſaw an *Indian*, whoſe Daughter had married a Northern *Indian* and been home with her, direct his own Son to ſketch out on a Board with a burnt Stick, the Coaſt of that Sea, which his Son did, and the Father afterwards took and corrected it where he ſaid the Son had miſtook.

Governor *Dobbs*, in the Account mentioned P. 45, mentions, ‘ that ‘ *Joſeph le France* was acquainted with an *Indian*, who lived at ſome ‘ Diſtance from *Nelſon* River in *Hudſon*'s Bay, who, about 15 Years be- ‘ fore that Time, went to War againſt a Nation living Northward on ‘ the Weſtern Ocean of *America*. When they went they carried their ‘ Families with them, and hunted and fiſhed from Place to Place for ‘ two Winters and one Summer, having left their Country in Autumn, ‘ and in *April* following came to the Sea Side, on the Weſtern Coaſt,

‘ where

‘ where they immediately made their Canoes. At ſome little Diſtance
‘ they ſaw an Iſland, which was about a League and a Half long when
‘ the Tide was out, or Water fell, they had no Water betwixt them and
‘ the Iſland, but when it roſe it covered all the Paſſage betwixt them and
‘ the Iſland, as high up as the Woods upon the Shore. There they
‘ left their Wives and Children, and old Men, to conduct them home
‘ and provide them with Proviſions, by hunting and ſhooting for them
‘ on the Road; and he, with thirty Warriors, went in Queſt of their
‘ Enemies the *Tete Plat*. After they parted with their Families they
‘ came to a Streight, which they paſſed in their Canoes. The Sea
‘ Coaſt lay almoſt Eaſt and Weſt; for he ſaid the Sun roſe upon his
‘ Right Hand, and at Noon it was almoſt behind him as he paſſed the
‘ Streight, and always ſet in the Sea. After paſſing the Streight they
‘ coaſted along the Shore three Months, going into the Country or
‘ Woods as they went along to hunt for Proviſions. He ſaid they ſaw
‘ a great many large black Fiſh ſpouting up Water in the Sea. After
‘ they had coaſted for near three Months, they ſaw the Footſteps of ſome
‘ Men on the Sand; then judged they were near their Enemies, quitted
‘ their Canoes, went five Days through the Woods to the Banks of a
‘ River, found their Enemy’s Town, made an Attack, the Enemy ral-
‘ lied and put them to flight.’ Then proceeds, ‘ upon which they fled
‘ to the Woods, and from thence made their Eſcape to their Canoes be-
‘ fore their Enemies overtook them, and after a great deal of Fatigue
‘ got to the Streight; and, after getting over, they all died one after
‘ the other, except this old Man, of Fatigue and Famine, leaving him
‘ alone to travel to his own Country, which took him up about a Year’s
‘ Time.’ When he reached the River *Sakie* he met his Friends again, who relieved him.

The *Indians* that this antient *Indian* went to War againſt, (and this *Indian* was living at *York Fort* in *Hudſon*’s Bay in 1746) are mentioned to be the *Tete Plat*, or *Plaſcotez de Chieus*. The Part which they inhabit is variouſly laid down by the Geographers; by ſome in Lat. 67, Long. 265 Eaſt from *Ferro*, which is the extremeſt Longitude that their Country is laid down in. Monſ. *de Liſle* and others place them in Lat. 63, and Long. 280 Eaſt from *Ferro*, ſo their true Situation is uncertain. Yet it is apparent that they do not live near to or on the Coaſt of the *South Sea*, or Weſtern Ocean. For what *Joſeph le France* in this Account, and ſo of all *Indians*, meant

meant by the Word Sea is any Maſs or Collection of Salt Waters which have a Tide. P. 38, in the ſame Work, giving an Account of the *Indians* paſſing down to *York Fort*. ‘ The River *de Terre Rouge*, and from that ‘ Place they deſcend gradually to the Sea.’ By which *Joſeph le France* means *Hudſon*'s Bay. Governor *Dobbs* mentioning the Weſtern Ocean of *America* is a Miſtake, which he was led into as having a Conſiſtency with the Syſtem which he had adopted. Theſe Warriors left their own Country in Autumn, are ſaid to have lived near *Port Nelſon* or *York Fort*, and were at the Sea Side in *April*. Their not being ſooner is not to be attributed to the Length of the Journey but to the Seaſon of the Year. The old *Indian* was a Year returning to his own Country; but he was fatigued and almoſt famiſhed, ſo labouring under a great Debility, and had his Food to ſeek in whatever Manner he could procure it. The Winter alſo came on ſoon after his return from the Enemy. They were on the Weſtern Side of the Land, which ſeparates *Hudſon*'s Bay from that Sea, where they ſaw ſo great a Tide. Afterwards paſſed a Streight, which Streight lay North and South. The Sea they came from and the Sea they paſſed into after ſuch Streight, laid Eaſt and Weſt. They continually kept the Weſtern Shore, as that was the Side on which their Enemy lived; and though they were ſo long as three Months in their Paſſage, they were obliged to go every Day aſhore to hunt, being thirty in Company, required a pretty conſiderable Subſiſtance. Their Canoes can bear no Serge or Wave when the Wind blows, therefore are obliged to keep cloſe to the Shore, and muſt go to the Bottom of each Bay.

This Account agrees both with that of *de Fonte* and *de Fuca*. The Sea they imbarked on was that at the Back of *Hudſon*'s Bay, and the Streight might be formed by ſome Iſland, or both the Shores approach each other, tho' the Account is not ſufficiently intelligible to make any Deſcription of it in the Map. *De Fuca* ſays the Streight grew wider when he entered ſuch Sea, which ſeems to imply it had been narrow. And the *Indians*, as before-mentioned, ſaid there was a Streight, and they can perceive the Land on the other Side. *De Fuca* alſo mentions he went aſhore, and found the Land fruitful, and rich of Gold and Silver and Pearls, and other Things, like *Nova Hiſpania*. Which ſhews it was a mixed Country; for a fruitful Country and a Produce of Gold and Silver is not a

Deſcription compatible with one and the ſame Part. The one we may ſuppoſe the Deſcription of the Parts nearer the Ocean, the other of the Parts where the *Tete Plat* live: But the old *Indian* ſeems alſo to make a Diſtinction; for he ſays they went to hunt in the Country and the Woods. When they had paſſed the Streight, they came into the broader Part of the Streight of *Anian*, which appeared to them to be a Sea. As to the Place of their Imbarkation, they would be directed by where they could procure Birch to make their Canoes.

The true Situation of the Part they went to, nor where they imbarked is not to be determined with any Certainty; but it doth not carry the leaſt Probability that the went to War with a People more than a thouſand Miles diſtant. It is ſcarce probable they had ever heard the Name of the Inhabitants of thoſe Parts, much more ſo acquainted with their Situation as to be able to form a Plan of going to conquer them. There muſt have been ſome particular Cauſe for their going to War with a People ſo far off; what that was it would be difficult to imagine; if it was only to ſhew their Proweſs, they muſt have had Enemies nearer home, againſt whom there was a greater Probability of ſucceeding. Neither could it be at that Diſtance, as they had one continued Scene of Fatigue until they reached the Streights; their Hearts broken by Reaſon of the Diſappointment, the Heat of Summer, no venturing aſhore but for a very ſhort Time, either for Food or Refreſhment, as they expected the Conquerors to follow them with Canoes, it would have been impoſſible for them to have reached the Streight. If they had a hundred Leagues a direct Courſe until they attained the Place of their Imbarkation, and by going round the Bays, might be near twice that Diſtance, the Current alſo againſt them, it would be ſufficient, ſtout young Fellows, and full of Blood as they were, for what they underwent to be fatal to them. It is evident the Streight was not far from where they imbarked, and the Relation ſeems to expreſs it ſo, as they had ſuch a Fatigue in attaining to it. Allowing the *Tete Plat* to be in Long. 108 Degrees from *London*, and the true Courſe was W. S. W. or E. N. E. on their return, with a Diſtance of a hundred Leagues, they would alter their Latitude 114 Miles, and make 277 Miles Departure, which, with 27 Miles to a Degree, would make the Place of their Imbarkation to be in Longitude 98 from *London*, about the Longitude of *Ronquillo*. As to the

Latitude where the *Tete Plat Indians* live, and as to the Longitude it is but conjecture; there is ſuch a Diſcordancy and Contradiction in the Maps, there is ſuch Uncertainty, that the North-weſt and Weſt Parts beyond *Hudſon*'s Bay in the Latitude of *Churchill*, ſeem to be entirely unknown. But this is to be obſerved, and which has been my Direction in theſe Obſervations, the *Northern Indians* and the *Home Indians* about the Factory of *York* Fort, mention theſe *Tete Plat Indians*, and ſpeak of them as their Enemies, therefore they cannot be at ſo great a Diſtance as the Weſtern Ocean, neither further than where I have ſuppoſed their Country to be. For as the Time the *Indians* were going there three Months, that is not to be conſidered ſo much with reſpect to the Diſtance, as they would chooſe a proper Seaſon, when there were the feweſt *Indians* in the Towns, and were moſtly engaged abroad in their Summer hunting. Perhaps there are no People who plan better in the Partizan Way, and execute with more Succeſs. They fix the Time they intend to make their Attack before they ſet out, then proceed eaſily and gradually towards their Enemy's Country, allowing a Sufficiency of Time in which they may recover any Accident by which they might be delayed, as unſeaſonable Weather, Difficulty and Diſappointments as to procuring Subſiſtance, or any Indiſpoſition, that they go to Action in their full Strength and Vigour; as an *Indian* who conducts an Expedition would be as much contemned for Want of Prudence, on his Return to the Towns, as he would for his Want of Conduct in leading his People to an Attack, and when the Enemy was too powerful not bringing them off without the Loſs of a Scalp. In either of which Caſes the young People, who obſerve freely the moſt exact Diſcipline, and implicitly obey what he orders, would not go any more to War with him.

Which Way the *Boſton* Ship made this Paſſage is uncertain. *Gibbons* was acquainted with *Bylot*, was Shipmate with him in Sir *Thomas Button*'s Voyage. *Bylot* was alſo with *Gibbons* the Time he loſt his Seaſon, by being detained in the Ice. *Bylot* made an Expedition for Diſcovery of a Paſſage in the Year 1615, on Sir *Thomas Button* having at a Trial of a Tide off the Iſland of *Nottingham*, in *Hudſon*'s Streights, found it came from the North-weſt, and to be from an Opening at the Back of *Cary*'s *Swans-neſt*, this Tide he went in Purſuit of; and was as far up as Lat. 65 Deg. 26 Min. then ſuppoſed where he was was nothing but a Bay,

but could not (he had gone up the Eaſt) return down the Weſt Shore. Whether *Gibbons* took his Information from *Bylot*, and purſued his Plan, is uncertain, and found his Way round the Head of *Repulſe* Bay. He was alſo acquainted with what *Fox* had done, who went into Lat. 66 Deg. 5 Min. ſo further than *Bylot*, who did not return down the Weſtern Shore; but his People being indiſpoſed, and not finding a North-weſt Tide, he haſtened home. Theſe Parts, therefore, were not properly ſearched, the Concluſion drawn for there not being a Paſſage there, being that the Tide came from the Eaſtward.

Or whether *Gibbons* went through *Hudſon*'s Bay is equally uncertain. The undiſcovered Parts of which Bay, or the Openings that were not determined in the Expedition in the Year 1747, are in a Map hereto annexed. But the Termination of *Cheſterfield*'s or *Bowden*'s Inlet hath been ſince ſearched by the Direction of the *Hudſon*'s Bay Company, and a Plan made of it, which I have not ſeen. Their Deſign was to go as far up ſuch Inlet until it terminated, or there was a Paſſage into another Water. But as it is terminated by Land, and if there is no Inlet or Opening left on the North or South Shore unſearched, or a Survey taken from the Heights, by which they could be ſatisfied there was no Communication with any other Waters by which there could be a Paſſage, it is to be concluded that *Cheſterfield* Inlet is no Streight or Paſſage as was expected, and it appeared to be as far as the *Californias* Boat went up, according to the Report made at that Time. The People who had been in the Boat belonging to the *California*, when the Ship was going up *Wager* Bay, where, from the Depth of the Water, the Breadth between both Shores, the high mountainous Land, there was great Reaſon to believe there was a Streight or Paſſage: Thoſe People declared, if there was a Streight they were aſſured that *Cheſterfield* Inlet was a Streight alſo.

There remains then to be ſearched for the Diſcovery of a Paſſage, the Opening called *Piſtol Bay*, in *Hudſon*'s Bay. That Part which *Bylot* and *Fox* left undetermined, along the Coaſt to Southward of *Baffins* Bay called *Cumberland* Iſles, which entirely conſiſts of large Inlets and broken Lands. We may be too premature in our Concluſions as to the Impracticability of ſuch a Paſſage from the high Latitude and the Shortneſs

95 90

The *DISCOVERIES* made in the NORTH WEST PARTS *OF* HUDSONS BAY.

By Capt Smith in 1746 & 1747.

66 65 64 63 62 61

95 90

CHESTERFIELD INLET

The extent of this Inlet is undiscoverd

Cape Fullerton

Cape Mackey

Cape Tomlinson

Var. 31°.W.

Stoney Point

Marble Island

JAMES DOUGLASS's BAY

Var. 30°.W.

Lord Southwells Islands

South Point of Main

Whale Cove

Sea Horse Isle

These Parts Undiscover'd

PISTOL BAY

Var. 26°.W

Jones's Isle

Merry's Isle

Knights Isle

Var. 28.W

Centry Isle

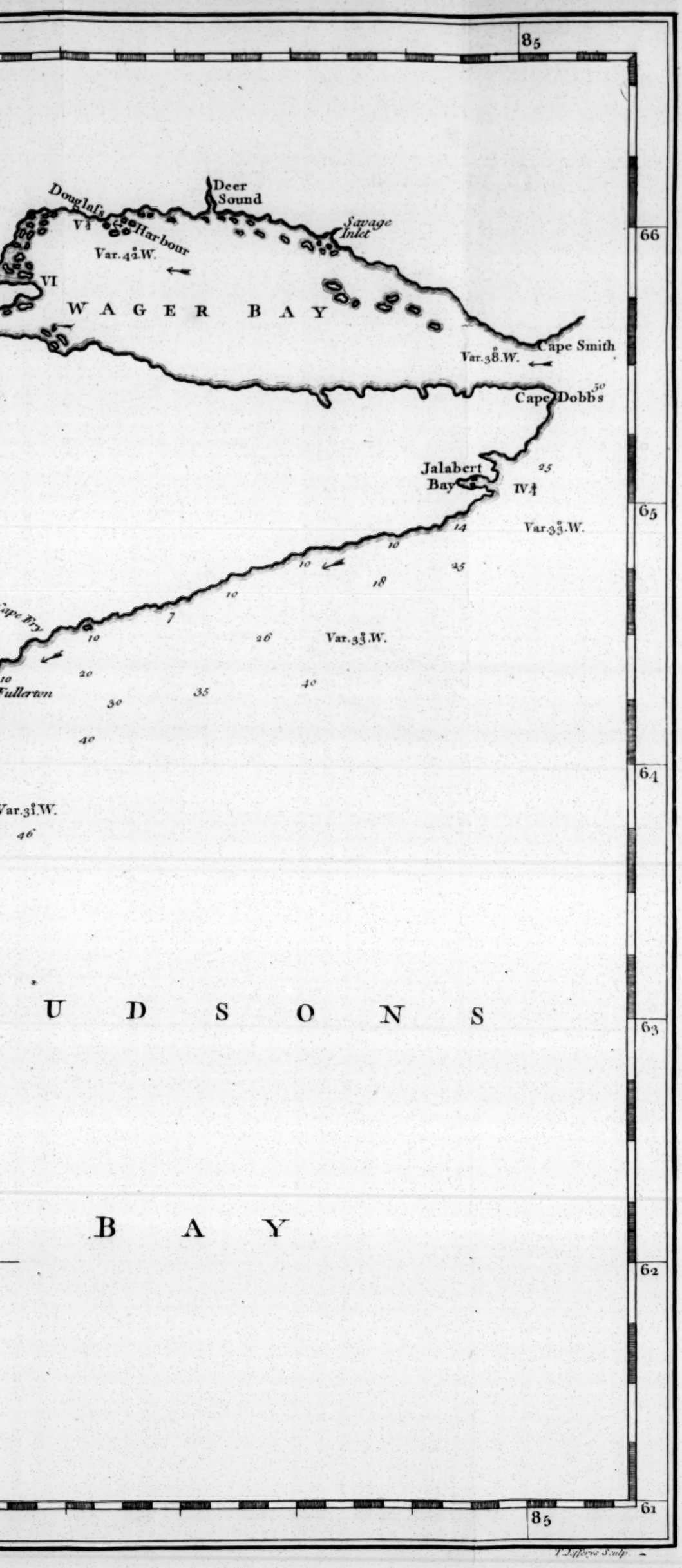
Cape Eskimaux

Knaps Bay

Var. 19.W

The Fall

H U



T. Jefferys Sculp.

neſs of the Seaſon, as we have the Inſtance of the *Boſton* Ship, which was ſo far advanced in the Sea to Weſtward of *Hudſon*'s Bay in the Month of *Auguſt*; and ſome Time would be taken up in finding out the Way. The ſtrong Tides that ſet in, and the Current when to Weſtward, which there is apparently in the other Sea, may give an Expedition that may compenſate againſt the Shortneſs of the Seaſon. It is but a ſhort Time that would be required to paſs that Part of the Paſſage which lies in thoſe high Latitudes, as the Courſe would be ſoon altered to the Southward.

Seyxas y Lovera, in his *Theatro Naval Hydrographico*, in the ſeventh Chapter, P. 426, ſays, 'North-eaſt of *America* there is the Coaſt of '*Greenland*, from ſixty to ſixty-eight Degrees, where there is to the Eaſt 'the Entrance of the Streight of *Frobiſher*. North-weſt in the different 'Iſlands which compoſe the Northern Parts of *America*, there is the 'Entrance of the Streight of *Hudſon*, where the *North Sea* communi-'cates with the *South Sea*, paſſing out of the Entrance of the Streight 'of *Anian*, which runs North-eaſt and South-weſt to the Northward of 'the Iſland of *California*, which Streight is hid by great Gulphs on 'the Part that is North of *America*, which contain ſuch great Iſlands, 'as *Cumberland* (or *Eſtoliland*) that are more than one hundred Leagues 'in Length from North-eaſt to South-weſt, and their Extremity from 'Eaſt to Weſt more than ſeventy Leagues.'—Page 44. 'Some hold it 'for certain that you can ſail from *Spain* to *China* through thoſe Streights, 'or to *Japan*, or to the Lands of *Eſo*, in three Months. As ſays alſo 'Doctor *Pedro de Syria*; but it is the Opinion of *D. T. V. Y.* Author of 'the Hiſtory of the *Imperial* States of the World, that he holds it for 'uncertain whether there is ſuch Streight by which you can paſs from 'the *North* to the *South Sea*.—P. 45. There were ſome of the Subjects 'of the King of *France*, who offered themſelves, if they could get his 'Majeſty's Licence, to perform that Voyage in four Months; entering 'the *Canal de Hudſon* from out of the Ocean, with a Courſe North-weſt 'or Weſt North-weſt, taking always a Sight of the Coaſt at Noon, they 'ſhould attain to the Height of the *Arctic* Circle, or one Degree more, 'as in making that Voyage they will be favoured in that Part by the 'Currents and Winds from the Eaſt and South-eaſt, and afterwards in

'their Paſſage by the Streight of *Anian*, the Winds and Currents would 'be from the North.—It is ſaid that ſome Strangers (on what Occa- 'ſion is not ſaid) have gone that Rout; and that there is in the Ar- 'chieves of the Admiralty of *Liſbon*, and of the *Contratacion* at *Seville*, a 'Copy of ſuch Rout; what I here obſerve is the ſame with what *Don 'Franciſco de San Millan* obſerves, from which or from the Copy of 'which Rout to be ſeen in various Languages, or the Diſpoſition of the 'ſaid Streights, he holds it for certain that there is ſuch a Courſe, and 'relates, That a *Hollander*, on the Evidence of a *Spaniard* who was 'aboard his Ship, from the North of *California*, forced by the Winds 'from South-weſt, attained to ſixty-ſix Degrees North-eaſt, after- 'wards took a Courſe Eaſt, and Eaſt South-eaſt, came into fifty-eight 'Degrees, when he entered the *North Sea* to Northward of *Terra Nova*, 'from thence to *Scotland*, and from *Scotland* to *Liſbon*, in leſs than three 'Months from the Port of *Nativadad* to *Liſbon*, of which Voyage he 'makes no Doubt.' And *Seyxas* obſerves, he hath ſeen many other Accounts of Voyages made from *Holland*, alſo from *England*, to the *South Sea* in three or four Months, which he much doubts, from the Shortneſs of the Time; alſo as in the *Spaniſh* Hiſtorians they have an Account of what paſſes in the ſeveral Parts of the *South Sea*, in *Cathay*, and *China*, and no ſuch Thing is to be found in the *Bibliotheca* of the Licentiate *Antonio de Leon*, which ſets forth all the Diſcoveries and Voyages which have been made from any Region from the Year 1200 in *America*.

It is plain from the Account of *Seyxas*, he doth not determine abſolutely for a Paſſage, but that there is a Paſſage is his Opinion. His chief Objection is to the Accounts from the Brevity of the Time in which the Voyages were ſaid to be performed, and there being no Account in a careful Writer of the Diſcoveries made in thoſe Parts. He doth not confine the Paſſage to *Hudſon*'s Bay, as I underſtand him, but to the Streight and the other Openings to Northward through *Cumberland* Iſles, and that they go up into as high a Latitude as the *Arctic* Circle. Which is agreeable to *Acoſta*'s Account, and gives a further Explanation to his Meaning than I have already done. As to which Iſles, and to the Northward and Eaſtward of *Cary*'s *Swans-neſt*, it is apparent, from the Peruſal

ſal of the Voyages, there hath been no certain Account on a compleat Diſcovery as to thoſe Parts. What he ſays as to the Voyage of the *Hollander*, it muſt be obſerved it was while *Holland* was under the *Spaniſh* Government in the Reign of *Philip* the Second, and ſeems to be the ſame Voyage, of which Mention hath been made that an Account was found amongſt the Papers of that Prince.

It hath been ſhewn to have been the conſtant Opinion of there being a North-weſt Paſſage, from the Time ſoon after which the *South Sea* was diſcovered near the Weſtern Part of *America*, and that this Opinion was adopted by the greateſt Men not only in the Time they lived, but whoſe Eminence and great Abilities are revered by the preſent Age. That there is a Sea to Weſtward of *Hudſon*'s Bay, there hath been given the concurrent Teſtimony of *Indians*; and of Navigators and *Indians* that there is a Streight which unites ſuch Sea with the Weſtern Ocean. The Voyage which lead us into theſe Conſiderations, hath ſo many Circumſtances relating to it, which, now they have been conſidered, ſhew the greateſt Probability of its being authentick; which carry with them as much the Evidence of a Fact, afford as great a Degree of Credibility as we have for any Tranſaction done a long Time ſince, which hath not been of a publick Nature and tranſacted in the Face of the World, ſo as to fall under the Notice of every one, though under the Diſadvantage that the Intent on one Part muſt have been to have it concealed and buried in Oblivion. Tranſacted alſo by Perſons in a private Part of the World, who only ſpoke of it amongſt their Friends at home, being themſelves Strangers to what they had effected, and made little Account of their Voyage. Beſides the Chagrin of their Diſappointment, and the illnatured Reflections it might ſubject them to, they might think it alſo beſt not to communicate it to the Publick, as it might encourage others to the like Undertaking, and ſo they fall into the Hands of the *Spaniards*, not only at the Hazard of their Ship, but their Lives, or at leaſt ſubject them to many Hardſhips ſuch as they had ſuſtained to no Purpoſe. Therefore they thought proper to ſay little about their Diſcovery, as it might only be a Means of entrapping ſome brave Adventurers, who might be animated by their Example to a like Undertaking. Theſe would be and were, by its being ſo little publiſhed on their Parts,

and

(and no Accounts of it in *England*, which ſhews their Friends were under an Injunction not to make it publick) the Reſolutions of ſuch ſenſible and ſagacious Men as *Gibbons* and *Shapley* were agreeable to which they acted. All which Circumſtances conſidered, what Degree of Evidence can be required more than hath been given to authenticate this Account of *de Fonte?*

Thoſe who argue againſt a North-weſt Paſſage have no better Foundation for their Arguments, Than that there is no Tide from Weſtward. Which is arguing only for the Truth of a Syſtem, and hath nothing to do with the Reality of a Paſſage, and in all Probability hath been the principal Occaſion that a Paſſage hath not been compleated: For a different Courſe of the Land, and no Tide from Weſtward, concluded any further Searches in ſuch Part, but on a due Survey made of the Map, as the Tide will enter up the Streight of *de Fuca*, and probably other contiguous Entrances which are not yet known, beſides the North-eaſt Branch of the *South Sea*, which we ſuppoſe to join with ſuch Streight; the Tide would fill that Sea on the Back of *Hudſon*'s Bay, and the Openings but be checked to the Northward by the Current; and may be hindered from coming into *Hudſon*'s Bay through the Inlet from Cauſes not known, or there being great Indraughts on the oppoſite Shore, which may take off the Force of the Tide, and cauſe it to come but a ſmall Way up ſuch Inlet. There is Reaſon to believe the proper Paſſage is up the Streight of *de Fuca*, therefore that is the proper Streight of *Anian*, as *de Fonte* proceeded no further than *Los Reyes*, and declared there was no North-weſt Paſſage; but the North-eaſt Part of the *South Sea* hath a Communication, as is expreſſed in the Map, in deſcribing which a Certainty cannot be expected, or an Exactneſs but what may be contradicted if a Diſcovery be made. The Deſign of the Map, beſides what relates to the Expedition of *de Fonte*, is to ſhew there is a Streight, called the Streight of *de Fuca*. A Sea at the Head of that Streight, at the Back of *Hudſon*'s Bay, from which Sea there is a Paſſage either by an Inlet into *Hudſon*'s Bay, or by a Streight at the Head of *Repulſe* Bay, and ſo to Northward of *Hudſon*'s Bay; from which Streight there is a Paſſage into the *North Sea*, either to Eaſtward of the Land of *Cary*'s *Swans-neſt* into *Hudſon*'s Streight, or by *Cumberland* Iſles, and ex-

preſſed in the Map in the Manner that the reſpective Accounts repreſent, according to our Underſtanding of them, with a Submiſſion to Correction and ſuperior Judgment. But an abſolute Contradiction without invalidating the Accounts on which ſuch Map is conſtructed, or to ſay there is no North-weſt Paſſage, which it is impoſſible ſhould be determined until a Search is made in the Parts which remain to be ſearched, are no Objections, are only Opinions, without any Authority to ſupport them, which Time muſt rectify.

To make an Expedition to diſcover whether there is a Paſſage by thoſe Parts which remain unſearched, purpoſely from *England*, is what I think an honeſt, diſintereſted, or impartial Perſon cannot recommend, as ſuch Expeditions might be repeated with great Expence, and the Event uncertain. The Government gave their Aſſiſtance, and the Generoſity of the Merchants hath been ſufficiently experienced, both in *England* and *America:* Therefore it becomes every one whoſe Intention it is ſolely that ſuch a beneficial Service ſhould be done to avoid propoſing what might, in the Conſequence, be an unneceſſary Expence to Government, and abuſe the Generoſity of the Merchants.

The Ships which went on theſe Expeditions, after they left the *Orkneys*, had no Place to put into, neither could they there Wood or Water, or conveniently repair a Damage. If they met with a Delay in paſſing *Hudſon*'s Streights, they were obliged, from the ſmall Part of the Seaſon that was remaining, to go to the *Hudſon*'s Bay Factories to winter; that they might have the more Time the next Year; were obliged to go to the Factories earlier than they were neceſſitated on Account of the Weather, in order to get their Ships laid up, and every other Convenience for wintering prepared before that the Winter ſet in. The *Hudſon*'s Bay Company, jealous of a Deſign to interfere with their Trade, probably their Fears not ill grounded, the Conſequence was, there was no Cordiality between the Factors and the Captains. The Ships People, by wintering, ſuffered in their Health, great Wages going on, a Conſumption of Proviſions, a Spirit of Diſcontent and Oppoſition amongſt the inferior Officers, which obſtructed the Succeſs of the next Summer. To obviate all which in any future Proceedings, a Diſcovery was undertaken on the Coaſt of *Labrador*, to find Harbours on that Coaſt which Ships could repair to if neceſſary on their Voyage out, or to repair to on their return,

return, which they could be at ſooner than at the Factories, ſtay longer on Diſcovery, and return the ſame Year to *England*. How well this Attempt anſwered the Deſign, may be collected from the Extract from a Journal of a Voyage hereunto annexed, performed in the Year 1753, giving an Account of the Coaſt of *Labrador*. As what is now to be done in the Diſcovery of a Paſſage in *Hudſon*'s Bay may be effected in a Summer, and if there is the deſired Succeſs, an Inlet found by which there is a Paſſage into the Sea adjacent out of that Bay, the Veſſel which makes ſuch Diſcovery, and all Ships at their return by ſuch Inlet, will have no Occaſion to go to the Southern Part of the Bay, it will be out of their Courſe, but proceed through the Streights to *Labrador*, there Wood and Water, get freſh Fiſh, and other Refreſhments; can repair any Damage either as to their Maſts, or their Hull, and return the ſame Year to *England* by the common Tract of the *Newfoundland* Ships, and not to go to the *Orkneys*.

That there was a good fiſhing Bank, a Coaſt convenient for carrying on a Fiſhery, a Fur Trade, alſo for Whalebone and Oil with the *Eſkemaux Indians*, was a Diſcovery the Conſequence of that Attempt from *America*. To take the Benefit of which Diſcovery ſeems now to be the Intention of the Publick. And a Survey of ſuch Coaſt being ordered to be made by the Government, if ſuch Survey is extended ſo far as to thoſe Parts, in which as already mentioned ſuch Paſſage muſt be, and without it is ſo far extended, the Deſign of attaining a true Geographical Account of the Northern Coaſts of *America* would be incompleat. By this Means it muſt be known whether there is ſuch a Paſſage, the Probability of which is unqueſtionable. Alſo by ſuch Survey a better Account will be got which Way the Whales take their Courſes, and conſequently where it is beſt to go in Purſuit of them. Alſo as to thoſe *Eſkemaux* who frequent to Northward of *Hudſon*'s Streights, where they retire to, and a proper Place be found to keep a Fair with them. As theſe *Eſkemaux* as well as thoſe on *Greenland* Side, who have not come into thoſe Parts any long Duration of Time, being the ſame Kind of *Indians* with thoſe in the *South Sea*, and as they tranſport themſelves and Families from one Part to another by Water, it ſeems highly probable that it is by ſuch a Paſſage or Streight that they have got ſo far to Eaſtward. This Diſcovery of a

Paſſage

Paſſage can be made without any additional Expence, wove in with other Services, as was in the Diſcoveries which were ordered to be made by the King of *Spain* on the Coaſts of *California*. The Propriety of a Veſſel to make ſuch a Survey, and the Abilities and Fidelity of the Perſons will be undoubtedly taken Care for. The Run from *Labrador*, let it be from any Harbour, will be but ſmall to any where, where it is neceſſary to make the Survey. The Perſons ſent will go freſh out of Harbour, whereas, with a Run from the *Orkneys*, the People are fatigued; will now be refreſhed as if they had not come from *Europe*. Will be out from ſuch Harbour but a few Weeks, in a fine Seaſon of the Year, no Way debilitated by the Scurvy, and in a few Summers will be enabled to compleat their Survey of that Coaſt; uſing ſuch an Aſſiduity as they proceed as not to leave any Part on Suppoſition or Truſt, but being aſſured where any Inlet or Opening determines. A Perſon who underſtands *Eſkemaux*, and one or more *Eſkemaux* to be procured, would be of Service as Pilots, and to give an Account of the adjacent Country. And there is no Veſſel (it is mentioned as perhaps it is not ſo very well known) ſo proper and ſerviceable for this long-ſhore Work as a Marble-head Schooner, about ſixty Tons, fortified as to the Ice, and would be at all Times a uſeful Tender, and a proper Boat if neceſſary to be left at the *Labrador*. What would give due Force to ſuch Expeditions, would be the Commodore of the Man of War being ſo near, under whoſe Eye the Whole would be done, who would direct their fitting out, receive their Report on their return, order a Review if neceſſary, and be the Occaſion of that due Subordination and Obedience both of Officers and Men, which it is often very difficult to effect on ſuch Voyages. Merit will then be diſtinguiſhed, and the Credulity of the Perſons at home will not be impoſed on, and no Diſcouragement of thoſe who diſtinguiſh themſelves in the Execution of ſuch laudable Attempts. Such a Paſſage being diſcovered, and the Sea entered to Weſtward of *Hudſon*'s Bay, the Manner of proceeding afterwards muſt be left to ſuperior Judgment.

APPENDIX.

AN

ACCOUNT

Of Part of the Coaſt and Inland Part of

THE LABRADOR:

BEING

An EXTRACT from a Journal of a Voyage made from *Philadelphia* in 1753.

THE Coaſt of *Labrador* to Northward of the Latitude of 57 Deg. 30 Min. is repreſented by Captain *Benjamin Gillam* (an Extract of whoſe Journal the Author had) as a perilous Coaſt, and without any Inlets; therefore the Deſign was to fall in with the Land to Southward of that Latitude, which was attempted *Auguſt* the 2d; a thick Fog, but expected when more in with the Land to have clear Weather. They ſaw Ice at times the whole Day, and in the Evening found themſelves imbayed in a Body of Ice, and plainly perceiving Points of Rocks amongſt the Ice, ſtood out again during the whole Night for a clear Sea, which they fortunately obtained the next Morning.

It was then propoſed to ſtand yet more Southward, to make the Land in Latitude 56°, and ſearch the Inlet of *Davis*. From the 3d to the 9th had various Weather, the Air temperate, Calms and light Winds, thick Fogs for ſome Days, the latter Part of the Time haizey, with Rain, which was ſucceeded the 10th of *Auguſt* with a hard Gale of Wind that

moderated on the 11th, and clear Weather: Saw Rockweed, ſome Kelp, Land Birds, a Number of large Iſlands of Ice, but no flat Ice; concluded in the Afternoon that they ſaw the Looming of the Land in Lat. 56 Deg. 2 Min. Long. 56 Deg. 42 Min. at Eight at Night had Soundings 95 Fathom, at Ten at Night 80 Fathom.

Auguſt the 12th, fine pleaſant Weather; at Eight o'Clock had 40 Fathom Soundings, and at Ten made the Land, bearing W. by S. ten Leagues. Many Iſlands of Ice, but the Wind contrary for *Davis*'s Inlet, ſtood towards another Opening which promiſed a good Harbour; but not being able to attain it before Night, ſtood on and off until the next Morning, fine pleaſant Weather; and *Auguſt* the 13th, by Four in the Morning, were in with the Land. A Whale-boat, with proper Hands, was ſent to ſound a-head, and find a Harbour. Soon after a Cry was heard from an Iſland to Northward; there appeared to be five Perſons. Some Rings, Knives, Sciſſors, and Iron Hoop, being taken by the People into the Boat, after rowing about a League they entered into a ſmall Harbour, near the Place where the five Perſons were firſt ſeen, but who had retired. Entering the Harbour they ſaw Shallops built after the *Newfoundland* Manner, at Anchor, with Buoys and Cables, a Maſt, a ſquare Yard athwart, with a Sail bent, a Tilt made of Seal Skins abaft. Theſe Boats were tarred, that Summer's Work. Upon the Sight of theſe Boats a Doubt aroſe whether they were *Indians* whom they had ſeen, or ſome unfortunate Shipwrecked People.

When the Boat got further into the Harbour two *Eſkemaux Indians* came off, the one a Man in Years, the other a young Man. The elder Man had a ſmall black Beard. The elder Man being preſented with a Ring, immediately put it on his Finger; the young Man did the ſame when one was preſented him. Both declined accepting Pieces of Iron Hoop, a very agreeable Preſent to the *Eſkemaux* on the Weſtern Side *Hudſon*'s Bay. They knew what Fire-arms were, which they ſaw in the Boat: Alſo aſked for ſome Pork, which they ſaw, and had been taken into the Boat for Fear the Schooner and the Boat ſhould be ſeparated; and, on the Boatſmen not having a Knife immediately ready, they produced a Knife apiece; and the elder Man uſed the Word *Capitaine* in his Addreſs; had a Complaiſance in his Behaviour. From theſe Circumſtances

cumſtances it was plain they carried on a Trade with the *French*; tho' the lateſt *French* Authors repreſented them as a ſavage People, who would never have any Commerce with them. And a Motive for this Undertaking was from an Opinion, that no Trade had been carried on in theſe Parts, either by *Europeans* or *Americans*, the printed Accounts and common Report both agreed in this. It was apparent to whom theſe Boats belonged; and there were more than twenty *Eſkemaux* aſhore, of various Sexes and Ages, who kept ſhaking of old Cloaths for Sale; and the elder Man preſſed the People in the Boat very much to come aſhore, alſo to bring the Schooner to an Anchor, which was ſtanding on and off; but as the Day advanced, the Situation the Schooner was in, being many ſmall Iſlands about, and a fine Opening which promiſed a good Harbour in the main Land, they declined the Invitation; and there was an *Eſkemaux* ready with a large Coil of Whalebone, ſeemingly for the Boat to warp in to a ſmall Cove and make faſt with. Theſe Civilities were acknowledged by a Preſent being ſent to thoſe aſhore, and after ſhewing where they intended for, the Boat returned aboard the Schooner.

The People on board the Schooner, as they advanced towards the Inlet where they expected a Harbour, hoiſted their Enſign, which was very large, and fired two Swivels by way of Salute; ſoon after the *Eſkemauxs* diſplayed on the Rocks a large white Enſign, on a high Pole; and when there was Occaſion to lower the Schooner's Colours, the *Eſkemauxs* lowered theirs; the Schooner's Colours being again hoiſted, they hoiſted theirs; but a Squal of Sleet and Rain came on, which prevented their having a further Sight of each other. At Six in the Evening the Schooner was anchored in a convenient Harbour, a level Shore, with high rocky Land, bare in Spots, the other Parts covered with a good Herbage and large Groves of Trees, Firs, Spruce, and Pine. An Evening Gun was fired to give the Natives Notice where the Schooner was, and alſo a good Watch was ſet.

Auguſt the 14th, at Day, they fired a Swivel aboard the Schooner, and diſplayed their Colours as a Signal for Trade; and a Party went aſhore to aſcend the Heighths. The largeſt Trees did not exceed ten Inches Diameter, and fifty Feet in Heighth; many Runs of excellent Water, Ponds in level Spots; the Country had an agreeable Aſpect, a

plentiful

plentiful Herbage, the Flowers were now blown, the Berries not ripened, and the *Angelica*, of which there was great Quantity, not ſeeded. They had a very laborious Walk before they attained the deſired Summit; the Muſquetoes very troubleſome. Being on an extraordinary Eminence they ſaw the North and South Point of the main Land, or two Capes which form a Bay, the Northermoſt was computed to be ſomething to the Northward of Latitude 56, and the Southermoſt in Latitude 55. The Shore high and bold, to Northward a Number of Reefs of Rocks lying out a great Way into the Sea, in the Southern Part of the Bay many Iſlands and two Inlets. Sixty Iſlands of Ice of large Dimenſions in Sight. In the aſcending this Heighth, ſaw many Mooſe Deer Paths, Tracts of other Animals; and in the Ponds Trouts of about ten Inches in Length. On the Shores few Fowl but Ducks, and a Plenty of Muſcles. The Weather very warm and pleaſant. The Schooner's People found a Barrel, a Hogſhead Stave, and a Piece of hewed Wood, on which it was conjectured that this was no unfrequented Harbour.

The next Morning, the 15th of *Auguſt*, the Boat was ſent to carry two Perſons to the Head of the Harbour, that they might travel to a Mountain about ten Miles off, to take a View of the inland Part of the Country. When the Boat returned, the People brought Word they had ſeen the Ruins of a Timber Houſe. The Boat was again manned to go and take a Survey of it; and it appeared to have been a Houſe built for ſome Perſons to winter in, of Logs joined together, part ſtanding, with a Chimney of Brick and Stone entire. The Houſe conſiſted of three Rooms, a Log Tent near, and a Pit dug in which they ſeemed to have buried their Beer. The Ground cleared at a Diſtance round: The Woods burnt, ſeveral Hogſheads and Barrels, and ſeemingly a great Waſte of Biſcuit, Pork, Salt Fiſh, and other Proviſions, which ſeemed as if thoſe who had been here had retired with great Precipitation; neither had been long gone, as there were freſh Feet Marks on the Strand, and ſome Trees lately hewn. The Marks on the Caſk ſhewed that the People were from *London*; and it was ſuppoſed that as the *Eſkemaux* had not come to trade, there had been a Fray between the *Eſkemaux* and theſe People; and when they conſidered the compleat Manner in which the Boats were equipped and rigged, doubted whether the *Eſkemaux* had not overpowered them, and had ſome of the People with them.

them. The great Earneſtneſs with which the elder of the *Eſkemaux* made Signs for the People in the Boat to go aſhore, ſeemed to be with a particular Deſign: Therefore it was thought prudent to be very careful in the Watch at Night, to ſtrike the Bell every half Hour, to keep a continual Walk on Deck, and call *All is well*, that the *Eſkemaux* might hear, if they ſhould intend a Surprize, that the People aboard were on their Guard.

The Morning of the 16th they run up to the Head of the Harbour with the Schooner, to Wood and Water, there being Plenty of Wood ready cut, and a Place conveniently dammed up to confine a fine Stream of excellent Water which came from the Heighths. There was then found ſeveral Pieces of printed Books, in *German* and *Engliſh*, the *Engliſh Moravian* Hymns. Peas, Beans, Turnips, and Radiſhes planted, which ſeemed as if they would come to no great Perfection, and judged to have been ſowed about three Weeks. The wooding and watering was finiſhed by Ten at Night, but with no ſmall Trouble on Account of the Muſquetoes, though great Smoaks made to keep them off.

The two Perſons who had been ſent to view the inland Country returned in the Morning, after having ſpent a rainy Night in the Woods; gave an Account that they had been forced to go round ſeveral ſmall Lakes, which made the Way longer than expected; and the Mountain was very ſteep and rugged: Saw ſeveral large Spots of excellent Meadow: The Timber much the ſame as that on the Shores of the Harbour: That they ſaw two Inlets to Northward, extending a great Way into the Land: That it was only the Branch of an Inlet that the Veſſel was at Anchor in; but they ſaw the Termination of the Inlet to be in large Ponds.

The 17th of *Auguſt* the Schooner was to return to her firſt Anchorage, with an Intention to ſearch the Inlets to Northward; but the Wind proved contrary, and a hard Gale, though the Weather pleaſant. The 18th the Wind moderated, and the Schooner returned to her former Anchorage; but the Wind did not ſerve to quit the Harbour until the 19th in the Afternoon; the Interval of Time had been filled up in brewing Spruce Beer, and doing other neceſſary Work with reſpect to the Sails

Sails and Rigging. At Six in the Evening was cloſe in with the Iſland, where they had ſeen the *Eſkemaux*, but now gone. It was not until the 21ſt, by reaſon of Calms and Currents, that they attained to the Inlet to Northward. Thoſe who had been ſent out with the Boat to ſound a-head, had ſeen on the Shore an *Eſkemaux* Encampment, from which they were but very lately retired, and brought from thence a Piece of a Jawbone of a Spermaceti Whale, which was cut with a Hatchet. It was plain from that the *Eſkemaux* were ſupplied with Iron Tools: They alſo found a Piece of an Earthen Jar. They judged there had been about eleven Tents.

The 22d of *Auguſt*, in the Morning, the Ship's Company catched ſome Cod; they were but ſmall, but fine full Fiſh. The Whaleboat was ſent up with ſome Hands, to ſound and find a Harbour: And three Perſons went on Shore to a nigh Summit, about four Miles off, to view the Country: Saw in their Way many Tracts of Deer, a deep Soil, good Graſs, and met with ſeveral large level Spots, with Ponds of Water; thick Groves of Timber, and a plentiful Herbage. The Country, from this Summit, appeared to conſiſt of Ridges and Mountains; and as the Weather changed from fine and pleaſant, to thick and hazey, they ſaw the Clouds ſettle on ſeveral Ridges of the Mountains near them, as alſo on the Heighth where they were, and under them. And when they returned the People on board ſaid they had had ſome ſmart Showers of Rain, which thoſe who had been on the Heighth were not ſenſible of.

In the Afternoon they proceeded with the Schooner to a Harbour which thoſe who had been ſent out with the Whaleboat had diſcovered, an extraordinary fine Harbour; and it may be here obſerved in general, that moſt of the Harbours are very fine ones. There are many of them, and not far the one from the other.

There were on the Shore, in many Places, the Remainder of *Eſkemaux* Encampments, but ſome Time ſince they had been there. Timbers of Boats, on the Shores, which were much decayed, had laid long in the Weather; in the Carpenter's Opinion the Boats they had belonged to muſt have been built fifteen or twenty Years, ſeemed to be the Timbers of ſuch Boats as had been ſeen with the *Eſkemaux*.

The

The ſucceeding Day there was ſuch Weather as they could not proceed; the Day after, the 25th, run up the Inlet about eight Leagues from the Harbour, which was about eighteen Leagues from the Entrance of the Inlet. As they proceeded they found the Country more level, thick Woods, intermixed with Birch Trees, and both Shores afforded a pleaſant Verdure. They could not proceed further with the Schooner, by Reaſon of Falls; which, being ſurveyed the next Day, might be paſſed with the Schooner, but with ſome Difficulty. Therefore early in the Morning of the 27th, at a proper Time of Tide, when the Falls were level, a Party went in a Whaleboat, with a ſmall Boat in tow loaded with Proviſions, Bedding, and a Sail for a Tent, to explore the Head of the Inlet. The furtheſt they could get with the Boat was about five Leagues, being intercepted by impaſſable Falls, about 300 Feet in Length, and forty Feet their perpendicular Height, though of gradual Deſcent. The Fall Rocks, but the Bank of the Northern Shore, which was ſteep, was a Kind of Marl, without any Mixture of Stone; and no frozen Earth here, or in any other Part, uſual in *Hudſon*'s Bay, as was proved by repeated Experiments: Therefore it may be concluded that this is a more temperate Climate in Winter than in any Part about *Hudſon*'s Bay, in the ſame or lower Latitudes.

From the firſt Falls to the ſecond there were large Levels along Shore, the Mountains at a conſiderable Diſtance within Land, eſpecially thoſe on the North Side. The Mountains and Shores thick cloathed with Pine, Spruce, Birch, and Alder, much larger and of better Growth than thoſe Trees nearer the Sea Coaſt; ſome Pines meaſured twenty-five Inches in Diameter. In a Pond, on the North Shore, ſaw two Beaver Houſes, and there were Plenty of Beaver Marks, as Dams, Trees barked and felled by them. The Water was freſh between the firſt and ſecond Falls. Poles of *Indian* Tents in many Places along Shore, Lodgments only for ſingle Families, tied together with Strips of Deer Skin, and no Encampments after the *Eſkemaux* Manner, ſhewed that a different *Indians* from the *Eſkemaux* reſorted into this Part. The whole Country had a pleaſant Appearance; but as they came near to the upper Falls, the Verdure of the Woods, barren Points of Rocks that exalted themſelves, terminating the View, the Diſpoſition of the Woods which had all the Regularity of Art, joined to the Freedom of Nature, the Gloom

of the Evening, the ſlow ſteady Courſe of the Water, and the Echoes of the rumbling Fall, afforded ſuch a Scene as affected even thoſe that rowed; and they ſaid, it was the pleaſanteſt Place they had ever ſeen. On a level Point, beautifully green, ſituated at a ſmall Diſtance from an Opening in the Woods, and in full View of and Hearing of the Falls, there were the Poles of an *Indian* Tent, which, from the Aſhes ſcarce cold, a Breaſt-bone of a wild Gooſe, with ſome little Meat on it that had been broiled, Pieces of Birch Bark left, ſeemed to have been not long deſerted, and the Situation was ſuch as expreſſed the late Inhabitants to have the ſofteſt Senſations. In coming up the Inlet they had found where there had been a ſmall Fire made, as ſuppoſed, to dreſs Victuals, but put out or covered with Turf, a uſual Practice amongſt Southern *Indians* to conceal the Smoke, when they ſuppoſe the Enemy is near. The Boats were ſecurely harboured, a Tent erected, with a good Fire before it, and the People reſted ſecurely all Night.

The next Day, *Auguſt* the 28th, two Perſons were detached to a Summit, in Appearance about twelve Miles off, others went and hung Strings of Beads, Combs, Knives, and other Peltry, on the Trees, ſome at a Mile, and others at a further Diſtance, from where they kept their Camp all Day, to invite the *Indians* to a Converſe with them; but no *Indians* were ſeen, nor any Thing meddled with. Thoſe who had walked to take the View from the Summit, ſaw the Water above the Falls extend a great Diſtance into the Country, but not the Termination of it, paſſing through Meadow Lands of large Dimenſions, and by the Foot of ſmall riſing Land, they ſaw a large high Ridge of blue Mountains at a great Diſtance, running North and South, which was ſuppoſed to be the Bounds of the new diſcovered Sea in *Hudſon*'s Bay: Saw ſeveral other Ridges of Land, but ſeemingly more level than thoſe to Seaward; paſſed over in travelling ſeveral Spots of excellent Soil, the Timber of good Size and Growth. There was a great Plenty of Graſs and Herbage; walked a great Way in an *Indian* Path, and ſaw ſeveral marked Trees, as is practiſed amongſt the Southern *Indians*. They returned in the Evening, much fatigued with the Heat of the Sun, and ſwelled with the Bites of Muſquetoes, and a ſmall black Fly, like thoſe in *England* called a Midge. Thoſe that ſtaid at the Encampment were alſo much plagued with theſe Inſects.

The

The Latitude of the upper Falls was 54 Deg. 48 Min. near the imaginary Line that bounded the *Engliſh* and *French* Limits in theſe Parts; and it being ſuppoſed that the two Inlets, ſeen from the Height above the Harbour where they firſt anchored, would terminate in the *French* Limits; they therefore had declined making any Search there, and proceeded to ſearch the Inlet to Northward.

The next Morning they ſet out to return to the Schooner, with a Deſign to ſearch the other Inlet to Northward, ſeen from the Mountain at the Back of the firſt Harbour, but not ſeen ſince by Reaſon of a high Ridge of Mountains, as it was ſuppoſed, that covered it. In the Night there had been a ſharp Froſt, and early in the Morning a thick Fog. About Ten in the Morning they were returned to the Schooner. Several of the People, contrary to the written Inſtructions which were left, had rambled from the Veſſel, got on the Heights, rolled down the *Indian* Marks, which are Stones that they put up one on another on the Knolls and Summits of Hills, to direct them in their journeying; a Proceeding which was highly diſſatisfactory to the Commander, conſidering the Diſpoſition which it was found the Natives were in, and whom, with the greateſt Induſtry, they could not get a Sight of. The People had ſhot ſome few Fowl, which were plentier in this Inlet than any where that they had ſeen, but very ſhy and wild. They ſailed that Afternoon to the Harbour which they were at when they firſt entered this Inlet.

Auguſt the 29th they ſailed out of this Inlet to go to the Northward, keeping within a Ledge of Iſlands, as they might paſs no Part of the Coaſt unſearched. Met with ſome Difficulties amongſt the Shoals and Rocks; but about Four in the Afternoon were clear of all, and plyed to Windward to enter the third or more Northern Inlet, which they had now open. Saw at the Head of a pretty deep Cove, on the South Side in that Inlet, a ſtrong Smoke ariſe, and that immediately anſwered by a leſſer Smoke on the Northern Side of the Inlet. The Smoke on the Northern Side the Inlet continued towering and freſhening; on ſeeing which they immediately ſteered for the Cove, ſuppoſing the Smoke to be made by the Natives as a Signal for Trade; but were delayed entering by the Tide of Ebb. At Sunſet were ſurpriſed with a Squall of

Wind, which came on in a Moment, and the Schooner in extreme Danger of being aſhore on the Rocks. A hard Gale ſucceeded, but they fortunately attained a Harbour, which had been before diſcovered by the Boat, and rode ſecure.

The 31ſt of *Auguſt*, the Weather being moderate, two Perſons went over the Heights to the Head of the Cove, in Purſuit of the Natives; and three Perſons went in a Boat to the Head of the Cove, with ſome trading Goods, and to paſs the two who walked, over the Water if it ran up into the Country, and the Natives ſhould be on the oppoſite Shore; but after rowing up about two Leagues they found a Termination of the Water, landed and aſcended the Heights, where they found a very large Plain, without Ponds, and a fine Soil, which they paſſed over and deſcended into a Valley, thick Groves, good Graſs, and large Ponds. Here they met with a Bear; which one of the People firing too precipitately miſſed. Several Bears had been ſeen before, ſome Foxes, many Tracts of Wolves, both on the Shores and Inland, and in one Place Otter Paths.

Three of the People were ſent to return with the Boat aboard, and two ſet out to go up a Mountain which promiſed a good Sight of the Country, and ſeemed poſſible that they might attain to the Summit of it, and return to the Schooner that Night; but were deceived by the Height of the Mountain as to the Diſtance they were from it. In the Aſcent they found great Declivities and Hollows in the Sides of the Mountain, the Rocks rent in a moſt ſurpriſing Manner, having Rents or Fiſſures in them from thirty to ſeventy Feet in Depth; ſome tremendous to look down, and not above two or three Feet in Breadth. The Dogs that were with them would not, after looking down, jump over them, but howled and took a Sweep round. In the Levels and Hollows on the Side there lay great Heaps of fallen Rock. Some Stones or ſolid Pieces of ten or fifteen Tons Weight, beſides innumerable leſſer Pieces. And found a Patch of Snow in one of the Hollows, about forty Feet in Breadth, and fourteen Feet in perpendicular Height, frozen ſolid, and ſeemed of the ſame Conſiſtence with the Iſlands of Ice. The Perſons, though conſtantly labouring, did not attain to the Top of the Mountain until about Half an Hour before Sunſet, where they found a thin Air,

Air, and a freſh ſharp cold Wind; though below, and in their Aſcent, they had experienced pleaſant warm Weather, and little Wind. From the Mountain they perceived a Smoke, about ten Miles off more inland, the uſual Practice of the *Indians* in the Evenings, when they form their Camps, to make a Fire to dreſs their Proviſions, and to be by all Night; and it was then ſuſpected that they were flying more inland, and that the Smokes ſeen the Night before were Signals from one Party to another to retire on ſeeing the Schooner, ſuppoſing us Enemies. It was too late that Night to return to the Head of the Cove, therefore encamped that Night on the Side of the Mountain in the Woods, near to a level Spot without the leaſt Unevenneſs of above ſix Hundred Feet in Breadth, and three Hundred over, exactly reſembling a Pavement without any Fiſſure or Opening in it. The next Day got to the Head of the Cove, near twelve Miles from the Mountain; on a Signal made the Boat fetched them aboard, where the People expreſſed in their Countenances a univerſal Joy at ſeeing their Commander ſafe returned, which was a great Satisfaction to him, as it was an Inſtance more ſincerely expreſſed than by formal Words addreſſed to him, that they looked on their Security to depend on his Preſervation. The Wind was contrary to their getting out of the Harbour that Afternoon; but the Boats were employed in ſeeking the beſt Channel for the Schooner to go out at.

The Morning of *September* the 2d, the Wind proved favourable, and that Evening they got a good Way up the third Inlet. When they were ſome Way up the Inlet, they diſcovered a Smoke upon an Iſland at the Entrance of the Inlet, and, when at Anchor, a Smoke alſo on the North Shore. Therefore by Day-light, *September* the 3d, the Time when Smokes are moſt diſcernable and looked out for by the *Indians*, a Perſon was ſent to fire the Bruſh on an Eminence aſhore, to anſwer that Smoke ſeen on the North Shore the Night before. Then the Schooner proceeded up the Inlet, and by Ten o'Clock was come to the Extremity of it, which terminated in a Bay of very deep Water, ſurrounded by very ſteep Mountains, with Groves of Trees on them; but they found a good Anchorage in a Cove, and an excellent Harbour. The Heights being aſcended, it was perceived there was a narrow Streight out of this Inlet, which communicated with Ponds. And that there was a fourth Inletto

Northward,

Northward, and which extended further to Weſtward than the Inlet which the Veſſel was now in, and about four Miles off, beyond the Hills there appeared a towering Smoke, upon the Sight of which the Perſons who went to take the View returned aboard to get ſome Proviſions, and a Parcel of trading Goods, and ſet out again with an Intention to ſeek the Natives, and ſpend the Night amongſt them. The Boat put them aſhore where it was thought moſt convenient and neareſt Place to the Smoke, but it proved otherwiſe; for after travelling about three Miles they fell in with a Chain of Ponds, which they were forced to go round. Hot ſultry Weather, the Woods thick, without the leaſt Breath of Wind, infinite Number of Muſquetoes and Midges. But by being thus to go round the Ponds, had the Satisfaction of ſeeing ſeveral Beavers Dams made to keep out the Tide Waters. They ſaw a Continuance of the Smoke, and ſhaped a Courſe for it; but when on the Heights perceived that the Smoke was on an Iſland about two Miles off the Shore in the fourth Inlet, therefore returned to the Veſſel that Night.

The 4th of *September*, in the Morning, they towed out of the Harbour they were in, the Wind ſoon after ſprung up, and by Night they go out of the Inlet, and anchored amongſt ſome Iſlands, juſt at the Entrance of the fourth Inlet.

The next Morning, *September* the 5th, entered the fourth Inlet; but being becalmed a ſmall Time catched above fifty Cod, much ſuch as they had before taken. By Twelve o'Clock were abreaſt of the Iſland where they they had ſeen the Smoke on the 3d, and which was four Leagues from the Entrance: Could perceive no Natives, but ſeveral Fires, and that there had been a great burning of the Bruſh; ſoon after ſaw a Snow lying at an Anchor, which hoiſted *Engliſh* Colours, and fired a Gun. They hoiſted the Colours aboard the Schooner, fired a Swivel, and bore away for the Snow. The Wind was freſh, and, as the Schooner was entering the Harbour, two People came running over the Rocks, hailed, but it could not be well underſtood what they ſaid; but it was a friendly Precaution as to ſome Rocks which lay off there. The Snow's People then took to their Boat, and made a Trip to view the Schooner as ſhe was coming to an Anchor, and then returned aboard. A Whale-

boat

boat was hoiſted out, and a Perſon ſent in it to go aboard the Snow, and know where ſhe was from, and to let the Captain know they would be glad to ſee him aboard the Schooner.

The Perſon ſent, and Capt. *Elijah Goff* the Commander of the Snow, returned aboard in a ſhort Time; and the Particulars of what the Captain related were, That the Snow was fitted out by Mr. *Neſbit*, a Merchant in *London:* That he, the preſent Captain, had been the Year before Mate of the ſame Veſſel on this Coaſt: That ſhe was then fitted out by *Bell*, *Neſbit* and Company; the intended Voyage kept a great Secret. They had, the Year before as a Captain, a *Dane* who had uſed the *Greenland* Trade, and could talk the *Eſkemaux* Language. That the Snow had been at *Newfoundland*, and afterwards came on the *Labrador* Coaſt; but being Strangers to the Coaſt, and the Captain very obſtinate, the Veſſel was ſeveral Times in Danger, which raiſed a Mutiny amongſt the People, who had formed a Reſolution of ſeizing the Ship, and bearing away for *Newfoundland*; which Mutiny was appeaſed, and the People conſented to go to the *Labrador*, where they harboured *July* the 20th, in the ſame Harbour which the Schooner firſt entered this Year. They brought with them four of the *Unitas Fratrum*, or *Moravian* Brethren, who were to remain during the Winter, to attain an Acquaintance with the Natives, and lay a Foundation of Trade: That the Houſe, the Ruins of which the Diſcoverer ſaw, was built for the Reſidence of theſe Brethren; and, being compleated by the Beginning of *September*, the Snow left them in Poſſeſſion of it, and ſet out to make Diſcoveries, and purſue a Trade to Northward: That they had ſome Trade in *Neſbit*'s Harbour, the Name they had given to the Harbour where the Houſe was, and alſo on the Coaſt before they arrived at the Harbour: That when they went to Northward; in about Lat. 55° 40′ off the Iſlands, amongſt which the Schooner had harboured the preceding Night, ſome *Eſkemaux* came aboard, and told the *Dane* Captain there were ſome trading Boats come from the Northward, with Plenty of Trade, and adviſed the Captain to come where they were. The Captain aſked, Why they would not come along Side? The *Eſkemaux* ſaid, It was dangerous on Account of the Surf. The Captain and ſix others went in the Ship's Boat, with a Quantity of Goods to trade, but had no Fire Arms with them, though adviſed to take them; but the Captain ſaid, No, they

were very honeſt Fellows. Captain *Goff* ſaw the Boat go round an Iſland, upon which there was a Number of Natives; but the Iſland hindered him from having any further Sight of the Boat. After the Boat had been gone about an Hour, he ſaw one or two of the *Eſkemaux* with his Glaſs peep over the Rocks; but never after ſaw any more of the Boat, the Snow's People, or the *Eſkemaux*. That the Snow lay at a League Diſtance from the Iſland; he had no other Boat, one being left with the *Moravian* Brethren. Capt. *Goff* waited three Days, and then returned with the Snow to the Harbour where the Houſe was. The Snow being ſhort of Hands, he took the *Moravian* Brethren aboard, leaving a Quantity of Proviſions ſufficient to ſubſiſt the unhappy People who were miſſing ſhould they come there, until his Return. They put the Key of the Houſe and a Letter in a Hole of a Tree; but on his Return this Year found the Houſe in Ruins, the Caſks and Hogſheads broke to Pieces, and the Key and Letter gone. That what was ſowed there was by Way of Experiment.

Capt. *Goff* judged that the *Eſkemaux* traded with the *French*, as their Fiſhgiggs, Knives, and Boats, were *French*; and the *Eſkemaux* told them there was a Settlement of twenty *Europeans* to Southward, which they ſuppoſed to be ſomewhere to Southward of Lat. 55, the Latitude of the Cape they had named Cape *Harriſon*, which is the Southermoſt Cape that forms the Bay in which is *Neſbit*'s Harbour, and the high Saddleback Land within, which is firſt ſeen off at Sea they named *St. John*'s. He ſaid that one of the *Eſkemaux* offered a Quantity of Whalebone for a Cutlaſs, which they are very fond of; the *Daniſh* Captain inſiſted on having more, the *Eſkemaux* anſwered, If he would not take it that Capt. *Saleroo* would; alluding, as ſuppoſed, to the Captain or Factor at the *French* Settlement. The Boats the *Eſkemaux* had were *French*: They ſpoke many *French* Words. And the Women worked the Boats, turned them to Windward, and were very expert in the Management of them.

The Account given by the Maſter who went in the Schooner's Boat to fiſh for Cod (Capt. *Goff* not having yet got any) to the People in the Boat was, That Mr. *Neſbit* was only, in this Caſe, an Agent or Factor for the *Moravian* Brethren, who aimed at a Settlement in theſe Parts, and to attain a Proprietv bv a prior Poſſeſſion, but that no Propriety

would be allowed of by our Government: That Petitions had been ſlung into the Board of Trade for Patents for the *Labrador*, but were rejected, and a free Trade would be permitted to all the Subjects of *Great Britain*; which open Trade was the original Deſign on which this Diſcovery was undertaken by the People in *America*; the Execution of which was not only interrupted by private Perſons ſtealing the Scheme, and being before hand, but hath been a great Hindrance to the Fiſheries being carried on in thoſe Parts, a Trade eſtabliſhed with the inland *Indians* and the *Eſkemaux*, and further Advantages which will be known, on our being better acquainted with thoſe Parts. For as to this Severity of the *Eſkemaux*, inexcuſably barbarous, yet there were ſome Provocations which might have been avoided, and which incited thoſe *Eſkemaux* to this Act, whoſe Hatred and Revenge, the Character of moſt *Indians*, are rouzed at the ſlighteſt Cauſes. It appears from a Journal of of the Boatſwain, wherein he makes a Valuation of the Trade, that they had bought a Hundred Weight of Whalebone for Six-pence. The *Eſkemaux* were alſo treated with great Contempt and Rudeneſs. A Perſon aboard had bought a Pair of *Eſkemaux* Boots; and carrying them into his Cabbin, an *Eſkemaux* followed claiming the Boots as his, ſaying that he who ſold them had no Right to ſell them; and the Buyer ſettled the Matter by preſenting a Piſtol at his Head. On which the *Eſkemaux* cried out in the *French*, *Tout*, *Comerado*, and retired.

Capt. *Goff* came this Year in Hopes to recover the People who were miſſing with the Boat, and to make a further Eſſay as to the Trade, but brought no Settlers with him, intended immediately for the Coaſt, which he could not attain to on Account of the Ice, and went to *Trinity* Bay in *Newfoundland*, where he ſtaid ſome Time. Sailed from thence the 27th of *June*; the 2d of *July* ſaw *French* Ships in the Streights of *Belle Iſle*, retarded by the Ice; and the 9th of *July* joined Capt. *Taylor* in a Sloop of about 35 Tons, fitted out from *Rhode Iſland* to go in Purſuit of a *North-weſt Paſſage*; and if not ſucceſsful to come down on the Coaſt of *Labrador*. Capt. *Goff* ſaid he had learned by Capt. *Taylor* that the *Philadelphia* Schooner would be out, and he ſhould have ſuſpected this to be her, but ſhe entered the Inlet ſo readily, and came up

with that Boldneſs as could not but think that the Schooner was a *French* Veſſel acquainted with the Coaſt; and he had received Orders to avoid any Harbour in which a *French* Ship ſhould appear. Capt. *Taylor* had ſeen a large *French* Sloop in Latitude 53, and to the Northward three hundred *Eſkemaux*, who had nothing to trade but their old Cloaths, and who were going further to Northward, but were hindered by the Ice. Capt. *Goff* and *Taylor*, who had entered into an Agreement to aſſociate, were eight Days grappled to the Ice, and did not arrive at *Neſbit*'s Harbour until the 20th of *July*. But had traded with ſome of the *Eſkemaux* before, though for ſmall Matters, and had ſome of theſe *Eſkemaux* aboard for three ſucceſſive Days, who then left them, and came no more aboard the Veſſels. Capt. *Goff* ſuſpected, though he had altered his Dreſs, that they had then recollected him. The 1ſt of *Auguſt* they ſailed from *Neſbit*'s Harbour, and attained to this Inlet where he now was; and on the 11th ſailed to the Northward, when Capt. *Taylor* left him; and on the 25th returned here again. That the Smoke which the Perſons ſaw on the Iſland when they travelled over Land, and which the Schooner paſſed that Day, was made by his Order, but that he had not made any other Smoke, and this was for a Direction for his Longboat, gone to the Northward to trade, and to ſignify to Capt. *Taylor* his being in the Harbour, whoſe Return he expected.

Capt. *Goff* ſaid he had been in no Inlet but *Neſbit*'s Harbour, and in this where the Snow was; and that Capt. *Taylor*, in the Snow's Longboat, had ſearched the Head of this Inlet, ſhewed a Draught of the Coaſt, which was defective, as he knew nothing of the intermediate Inlets. Had no Account of the inland Country; of there being any Beaver or other Furs to be acquired there; or of there being any Mines, of which the Schooner's People had ſeen many Inſtances, and had collected ſome Ore. Capt. *Goff* had two *Dutch* Draughts of the Coaſt, made from late Surveys; but they were very inaccurate, the Views taken from Sea, and there the Land appeared cloſe and continued; the Inlets, excepting that in which they now were, appearing like ſmall Bays, their Entrance being covered by Iſlands. They had, this Year, found the Corpſe of one of thoſe who went in the Boat, ſtripped and lying on an Iſland.

It being rainy Weather, and the Wind contrary to the Schooner's going up the Inlet, they were detained, and on *September* the 8th the Snow's Longboat returned, after having been out fourteen Days, with ſome Whalebone, and a Quantity of *Eſkemaux* Cloathing, which being examined to find out if the *Eſkemaux* wore Furs, there was only ſeen a ſmall Slip of Otter Skin on one of the Frocks. And Capt. *Goff*, being aſked, ſaid he never ſaw any Furs amongſt them. It is pretty evident the *Eſkemaux* only paſs along this Coaſt, to go and trade with the *Eſkemaux* in *Hudſon*'s Streights, and occaſionally put in as Weather or other Occaſions may make it neceſſary, which keeps the Native or inland *Indians* from the Coaſt, as they are their Enemies. The *Eſkemaux* go up to Latitude 58, or further North; there leave their great Boats, paſs a ſmall Neck of Land, taking their Canoes with them, and then go into another Water which communicates with *Hudſon*'s Streights. Carry their Return of Trade into *Eſkemaux* Bay, where they live in Winter; and the *French* made conſiderable Returns to *Old France*, by the Whalebone and Oil procured from theſe People. And this Account is agreeable to the beſt Information that could be procured.

While the Schooner's People were viewing the Cloaths, Word was brought that the *Eſkemaux* were coming, who may be heard ſhouting almoſt before that they can be diſcerned, the Schooner's People repaired aboard. On the Colours aboard the Snow being hoiſted, the Schooner's People diſplayed theirs; but the Snow being the neareſt, and the Snow's People ſo urged the *Eſkemaux* to come along-ſide them, that they were afraid to paſs. The *Eſkemaux* had no large Boats with them, only their Canoes, three of which came afterwards along-ſide the Schooner. It was perceived that none of the leading People were in the Canoes; they expoſed no Marks or Shew of any Trade they had, which was uſual for them to lay on the Outſide their Canoes; nevertheleſs they were preſented with Rings. It was ſome Time before they began to trade with the Snow's People, and then it was carried on in a very peremptory Manner.

The People in the Schooner, a light Wind ſpringing up, weighed Anchor, with a Deſign to proceed up the Inlet, expecting to be followed

by the *Eſkemaux*, when they ſaw that they were not Aſſociates with the Snow's People, ſo to have a future Opportunity of trading with them. It was alſo conſiſtent with the Deſign they had of ſearching this Inlet, the firſt Opportunity that offered. They took their Leave of Capt. *Goff* as they paſſed, and when advanced further beat their Drum. The *Eſkemaux* quitted the Snow and came after the Schooner. The Fire Arms were all primed and in order aboard the Schooner, but concealed; each Man had his Station; and they were ordered to treat the *Eſkemaux* as Men, and to behave to them in an orderly Manner; no hallooing, jumping, or wreſtling with them when they came aboard; not to refuſe ſome of the *Eſkemaux* to come aboard, and let others, as there were but nine Canoes in all.

As the *Eſkemaux* came along-ſide the Schooner, they were preſented each with a Biſcuit, a Perſon ſtanding in the main Chains with a Baſket of Biſcuit for that Purpoſe. Then they aboard the Schooner ſhewed a Kettle, a Hatchet, and ſome other Things, which ſeemed much to pleaſe the *Eſkemaux*. One of them attempting to get into the Schooner, two of the People helped him in: He was received civilly on the Quarter-deck; the trading Box ſhewed him, a Spoon, a Knife, and a Comb with which he touched his Hair and ſeemed deſirous of, were given him. Other *Eſkemaux* were by this Time aboard. They were preſented with Fiſh-hooks, ſmall Knives, Combs, and a King *George*'s Shilling apiece, which they carefully put into their Sleeves. In the interim the *Eſkemaux* who came firſt aboard was gone to the Side, and called to another yet in the Canoe under the Title of *Capitane*. The *Eſkemaux* ſo called to immediately came aboard, ſaluted the Commander with three Congees, and kiſſed each Cheek. He was preſented with a Spoon and a Knife. Being ſhewn the Goods, appeared very deſirous of a File, offering old Cloaths for it. But the Commander ſignified he would not trade for old Cloaths, but *Shoecock* (which is Whalebone in their Language) or Skins; and the latter he denoted to the *Capitaine* by a Piece of white Bear Skin that the *Capitaine* had brought in his Hand. The *Capitaine* expreſſed by his Action that he had not either Bone or Skins: He was then preſented with the File; was ſhewed a Matchcoat, which he ſurveyed very accurately; ſigned to the Commander if he was not come

round

round from the South-weſt, meaning, as ſuppoſed, from *Quebeck* or the Gulph of *St. Lawrence*. Afterwards took the Commander under his Arm, and ſhewed a Deſire of going into the Cabbin, which was complied with. He paſſed the Door firſt, and ſat down in as regular a Manner as any *European*, having firſt accurately looked about him; but there were no Fire-Arms in Sight. Refuſed Wine, drank Spruce Beer; was ſhewed a Sample of all the Kind of Goods, with which he ſeemed well pleaſed; and it was ſignified to him that there was Plenty of them. While in the Cabbin the other *Eſkemaux* who were on Deck, called to their *Capitaine*, they were invited down. Three of the *Eſkemaux* came, but it was obſervable the *Capitaine* covered the Goods with a Woollen Cloth, which lay on the Table. They were preſented with Beef and Pudding, which they took, and returned on Deck. The *Eſkemaux Capitaine* put the Goods into the Box himſelf very honeſtly, and ſeeming to admire a ſmall Braſs-handled Penknife, it was preſented to him. He then returned on Deck, pointed to the Sun, lowered his Hand a little, then made a Sign of ſleeping by ſhutting his Eyes, and laying his Hand to his Cheek, and ſhewed with his Hand to have the Schooner to come to an Anchor juſt above. By which it was underſtood that a little after that Time the next Day he would be there with Trade. The Schooner, being by this Time oppoſite to a narrow Paſſage, or Streight formed by Iſlands, through which the *Eſkemaux* had come into this Inlet, the *Capitaine* ordered his People into their Canoes, and retired with a Congee himſelf, after repeating the Commander's Name, to ſee if he had it right, and which he had been very induſtrious to learn while he was in the Cabbin. The Commander attended him to the Side; and ſeeing in his Canoe a War-bow and Arrows, which are of a curious Conſtruction, preſſed him to let him have them, though the ſame Thing as aſking a Man to part with the Sword he wore. The *Capitaine*, by Signs, ſhewed he could not part with it, and ſeemed to expreſs it with great Reluctance that he could not. This Circumſtance, and their having no Women with them, cauſed the Schooner's People to think they looked upon themſelves, when they ſet out, as coming amongſt their Enemies. The Drum was beat until they were out of Sight; and the *Capitaine*, juſt before he loſt Sight of the Schooner by being ſhut in by the Iſlands, pointed to the Sun, and the anchoring Place. The *Eſkemaux*, while aboard,

aboard, behaved with great Decency and Silence; though at firſt they began to jump and halloo, as they had done aboard the Snow; but finding the People of the Schooner not ſo diſpoſed, ſoon left off.

Soon after the Schooner was anchored in an excellent Harbour, the Snow's Boat came along-ſide, with the firſt Mate and Agent. They were aſked to meſs; and it being enquired of them how far they had been with the Longboat in the laſt Trip, ſaid to Latitude 57° 14′: Had ſeen no *Eſkemaux*, but within a few Days, though they had been out fourteen Days. The Mate ſaid, that he had chaſed a trading Boat, with two *Eſkemaux* in it, who had endeavoured to avoid them, and dodged amongſt the Iſlands; but he came up with them as though he had been a Privateer's Boat; run bolt aboard them, and ſo frightened the *Eſkemaux* that they fell on their Knees, cried out, *Tout Comerado*, and they would have given him all they had. He ſaid they took out the Whalebone, which he brought aboard, about a Hundred and fifty Weight, and paid them for it as much as he ſaw the Captain give. He ſaw other *Eſkemaux* at times aſhore, where they invited him, but would not venture; and fired a Blunderbuſs, charged with thirteen Bullets, over them, which cauſed ſome of them to fall down, others to bow. Some *Eſkemaux* came along-ſide, and traded their Cloaths; but with great Fear, crying out, *Tout Comerado*, as he had four Men armed ſtanding in the Bow of the Boat. Said that thoſe *Eſkemaux* had, who were juſt gone from the Schooner, the Peoples Cloaths who had been trepanned the laſt Year, particularly a brown Waiſtcoat, which had had white Buttons on it, and a white Great-coat. The Great-coat meant was a *French* Matchcoat, which the *Eſkemaux* Captain had on, made up in a Frock according to the Manner that they wear them. The ſuppoſed brown Jacket was a *French* brown Cloth, and there were two *Eſkemaux* who had them. The Mate ſaid the Schooner's People had talked of ſome Inlets; but no Anſwer was made, on which he declared there was no Inlet between *Neſbit*'s Harbour and where they then were, nor any Inlet to Northward between that and Latitude 57° 14′. After making ſome Enquiries, as to what the Schooner's People further intended, quitted, and made for the Streight the *Eſkemaux* had paſſed through.

This

This is mentioned as an Inſtance of what Caution ſhould be uſed, as to the Choice of Perſons ſent on Expeditions to explore unfrequented or unknown Parts, as the Adventurers may be Sufferers, and the Reaſon of their being ſo a Secret, and thereon pronounce deciſively no Advantages are to be made, thus deprived of what might be greatly to their private Emolument in Time under a proper Conduct, and to the Benefit of the Publick. And there is a further Misfortune attending an improper Choice, which every ſocial and generous Man will conſider. That according to the Impreſſions that *Indians* receive on the firſt Acquaintance, a laſting Friendſhip may be expected, or an Enmity and Jealouſy very difficult to remove, who, in the interim, will execute their Revenge; not on thoſe who gave the Offence, but on all indiſcriminately of the ſame Complexion, when an Opportunity offers. Reaſons would be unneceſſarily urged in Support of what Experience proves, and of which there have been ſeveral melancholy Examples on this Coaſt. By a Privateer from *New York*, ſome Years ſince, the firſt Offence was given; thoſe who have gone ſince have done nothing to mollify or abate this Enmity and Revenge. There could be no Expectation of a Reconciliation with theſe *Indians*, to the great Improvement of Commerce in various Branches, but by the Meaſures taken, the ſending ſome of his Majeſty's Ships into theſe Parts to explore and get a Knowledge of the Coaſt; and the Commanders to eſtabliſh a Regulation, which will be a Satisfaction and Encouragement to every fair Trader; and where the Trade long ſince might have been brought to ſome Perfection, had it not been from the little dirty Avarice of thoſe employed by private Adventurers, who hindered the original Deſign having a due Effect; and by interfering the one with the other, to their mutual Prejudice, they prevented thoſe Returns on their Voyages which might have been otherwiſe made. The Conſequence was, all future Attempts were dropt, and it was indeed rendered almoſt impoſſible that any freſh Undertakings ſhould meet with Succeſs, by the Difficulties ſlung in the Way on Account of the Natives, but which will now be effectually removed by the Government giving their Aſſiſtance.

The next Morning three People were ſent from the Schooner to go on the Heights, to diſcover the Water the *Eſkemaux* had gone into, and to

ſee

ſee if the *Eſkemaux* were coming. The Account brought back was, that there was ſeen an *Indian* trading Boat or Shallop under Sail, which preſently tacked and ſtood towards four other Shallops. They all lowered Sail, and the *Eſkemaux* ſeemed to be conſulting together. Soon after the People ſaw the Snow's Longboat coming, the Shallops hoiſted Sail, then went one Canoe, afterwards two more, to the Snow's Longboat, while the Shallops crouded away. The Schooner's People, after this Time, had no Opportunity of ſeeing the *Eſkemaux*; and attributed their coming no more to their Fear of meeting the Longboat, or the bad Weather, it being wet and bluſtering for the ſeveral ſucceeding Days. But they learned, after the Schooner had returned to *Philadelphia*, that thoſe in the Snow's Longboat followed the Shallops, came up with them, and took what they had. The Reaſon is apparent for their not coming to the Schooner as they had no Trade, and as they might have a Suſpicion that the Schooner's People had a Connivance with thoſe in the Boat, eſpecially as they might ſee the three People from the Schooner ſtanding on the Heights.

The Commander ſearched the Head of this Inlet, the Shores of which were the moſt barren of any that had yet been ſeen, from the Sea to the Head of it, about nine Leagues. Upon their Return they found the Snow gone; they then went through the Streight by which they ſaw the *Eſkemaux* paſs to explore that Water. From this the Diſcoverer paſſed between Iſlands, without going out to Sea into a ſecond Inlet; and from that to a third from where he had met the Snow, and the ſeventh from *Neſbit*'s Harbour. And the ſeventh or laſt Inlet ran a North and Weſterly Courſe, and terminated the furtheſt inland, or had the moſt Weſtern Longitude of any of the Inlets; and its Head about fifteen Leagues from the Sea.

Theſe laſt three Inlets to Seaward are ſeparated by very large Iſlands, and have Iſlands lying off directly athwart their Entrance, ſo that it is difficult to diſcover, when within theſe Iſlands, that there is any Outlet to the Sea. The Iſlands have little Wood on them, and are moſtly barren Rock; but the main Land much as in the other Parts, only the Inland more level. The blue Ridge of Mountains appeared plainer than from any other Part. The Latitude of the furtheſt Inlet about 56.

Having

Having explored theſe reſpective Waters and adjacent Country, and *Davis*'s Inlet, conſequently, though it is difficult to which properly to affix the Name; and the Autumn being far advanced, as was apparent from the Birch Leaves becoming yellow, the Berries Froſt-bit, the Pines and Spruce turning brown, ſevere Gales, Snow and Sleet at times, and exceſſive cold on the high Land; ſo as nothing further could be carried on with any Spirit, but exceſſive Fatigue, and the Health of the People, as well preſerved as on firſt ſetting out, would be now impaired, with no certain Proſpect of doing any Thing further that was material, ſufficient Harbours having been found; on the 20th of *September* they ſet out on their Return.

Leaving the Land favoured with pleaſant Weather, an Opportunity waited for to make an accurate Survey of the Fiſhing Bank, and to find the Diſtance it lay from the Land, which from the Soundings on making the Land, the ſeeing the Iſlands of Ice aground, and the Account of *Davis*, was known to be there, and named by him *Walſingham*'s Bank, after the true Patriot and generous Patron of a Diſcovery of a North-weſt Paſſage. Sounding about a League from Land, with one Hundred and fifty Fathom of Line, had no Ground. At about ſix Leagues from Land, twenty-five Fathoms afterwards various Soundings, and catched a great many Cod, large and full fed, reckoned by the People aboard to be very extraordinary Fiſh, ſome of whom from *Boſton* followed the Employ of fiſhing for Cod. The Bank was concluded to be about nine Leagues broad, and ninety Fathom Soundings on the going off it, on the Eaſtern Side; and it was concluded, on a pretty good Aſſurance, that it reaches from Lat. 57 to Lat. 54, if not further; but the Weather proving boiſterous, as they ran to the Southward, could not continue their Soundings.

The Schooner ſounded with a Hundred and fifty Fathom of Line, cloſe by an Iſland of Ice, of a ſurpriſing Magnitude, between the Bank and the Shore, which was aground, and they did not get Soundings.

FINIS.

ERRATA.

Page 15. L. 23. de Fuentes. The, *read* de Fuentes, the.
44. L. 11. de Fonte's, *read* de Fonte's Account.
45. L. 36. Don Ronquillo, *read* Don Penneloſſa.
49. L. 18. from, *read* in.
54. L. 11. to the Southward, *read* to the Northward.
61. L. 15. it, *read* this Miſſion.
67. L. 29. as that worthy, *read* that worthy.
82. L. 6. New Spain, *read* Florida.
L. 9. Florida, *read* Peruan Part.
83. L. 28. is conſiſtent, *read* is not conſiſtent.
90. L. 17. Rivers and Harbours, *read* River and Harbour.
106. L. 32. in the Year 1746, *read* until the Year 1745.
111. L. 6. between the Sea, *read* the Ocean and the Sea.
136. L. 14. nigh Summit, *read* high Summit.

DIRECTIONS for placing the MAPS.

Map of *de Fonte*'s Diſcoveries, in Front.
Map of *New Spain*, from *Torquemada*, Page 86.
Map of the Diſcoveries in *Hudſon*'s Bay, Page 122.

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